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Palestinians grieve over loss of leader



Yasser Arafat

Bush: Arafat's passing opens door for Middle East peace Page 8



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States

Big Dig leaks: State Attorney Gener-al Thomas F. Reilly said his office wants to know whether water accumulating on the underground roof of the Big Dig tunnels could damage the \$14.6 billion roadway project, and who should be blamed for more than 400 leaks in the tunnel system

As early as 1999, contractors on the costli-est highway project in U.S. history knew that serious construction flaws existed in the walls of the tunnels directing traffic under downtown Boston, according to documents cited by project officials.

Elizabeth Edwards' biopsy: A biopsy has shown that a lump in Elizabeth Edwards' breast has not spread, a family spokesman said, as the wife of former Democratic vice presidential candidate John Edwards com-

enced chemotherapy.

After a 16-week chemotherapy course, Edwards will take a four- to six-week break. Georgetown University Medical Center doc-tors who are treating Edwards will then surgically remove the lump.

As a safety precaution, however, doctors will remove some of her healthy lymph node tissue. Edwards will then undergo radi-

World

Nigeria fuel strike: A Nigerian high court on Thursday blocked an upcoming general strike meant to shut down oil exports in the world's seventh-largest exporter.

Nigeria's unions - including blue- and white-collar oil worker guilds - had called the strike for Tuesday and said this one would target oil production and exports, unlike other recent strikes that mainly target-ed businesses in the country.

The appeal hearing would resume next Wednesday, said Justice Tanko Mohammed Yusuf, who ordered a stay on union action until a final ruling in the case.

Kashmir troop withdrawal: India's prime minister on Thursday ordered the reduction of troops in the Indian-controlled portion of Kashmir, saving a decline in separatist violence in the Himalayan region prompted the decision.

"In recognition of the improvement in the

situation, the government has decided to reduce the deployment of troops this winter Prime Minister Manmohan Singh said in a statement that came days ahead of his planned visit to the strife-torn Indian state.

Police raid in Sudan: Just hours after the government agreed to a peace deal Tuesday aimed at ending violence in Darfur, Sudanese police arrived at this battered camp in the middle of the night, beating residents with wooden poles, bulldozing and burning shelters, and firing tear gas into a health clinic, residents and aid workers reported.

The assault capped a series of often-violent government raids over the past week aimed at relocating residents to new camps. It also came despite international condemation of the raids and requests from the United Nations and the Rush administration that displaced families not be forcibly moved to new locations

The U.N. Security Council is to hold a meeting in Nairobi next week to discuss the



Veterans Day remembrance: John Odrey of Pittsburgh pauses at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C., before Thursday's Veterans Day ceremony.

crisis in Sudan. The panel could impose sanctions on the Khartoum government if it funds serious abuses of civilians have taken place

SARS vaccine: A SARS vaccine is unlikely to be available soon because few drug companies want to invest in a product that may have no demand without another major outbreak, said a Hong Kong researcher who has worked on a vaccine.

Of at least 16 possible SARS vaccines de veloped worldwide, only one has been picked up by a drug company, in China, where it's in an early testing phase, said University of Hong Kong microbiologist Yuen Kwok-vung

Dutch filmmaker's slaying: Arsonists set fire to a school and attempted to burn down two churches in the Netherlands, the latest in a series of attacks following the murder of a Dutch filmmaker by a suspected Mus-lim radical, police said Thursday. There were no injuries.

A total of 20 religiously-linked sites have been targeted for attacks since filmmaker Theo van Gogh was shot and stabbed to death on Nov. 2 on an Amsterdam street.

Japan earthquake: A magnitude 6.3 earthquake rocked the northern Japanese island of Hokkaido on Thursday. There were no im-

mediate reports of injuries or damage.

There was no danger of tsunami, or ocean waves caused by seismic activity, the agency said. The town of Kushiro-cho was closest to the center of the quake, but local officials said there had been no reports of damage in the town.

Chechen rebel group trial: A Russian court convicted eight former members of a Chechen rebel group on Thursday in con-nection with an armed incursion into neighboring Dagestan last year that killed nine border guards.

The men, who were allegedly followers of slain Chechen warlord Ruslan Gelayev,

were found guilty of being members of an illegal armed group, the murder of border guards, illegally crossing the border and car-rying weapons. They were sentenced to prison terms ranging from six to 20 years.

sassination trial: Military personnel accused in two failed assassination attempts against Pakistan's President Gen. Pervez Musharraf will be tried by a military court soon, an official said Thursday.

Al-Oaida-linked terrorists tried to blow up Musharraf's motorcade twice in December 2003 on a road near the capital, Islamabad. The president escaped unhurt, but in the second attack, 17 people were killed.

Security agencies have arrested an un-known number of civilians and some low-ranking army and air force officials on suspicion of their links with those who masterminded and executed the attacks

Swedish official's murder: The mental health of the man who confessed to killing Foreign Minister Anna Lindh was debated in an all-day closed session of the Supreme Court on Thursday as medical experts gave conflicting views on whether he should be in prison or psychiatric care.

Final arguments in the last murder trial of Mijailo Mijailovic, convicted of fatally stabbing Lindh in a Stockholm department store in September 2003, were postponed until Friday. If Mijailovic remains in psychi-atric care, he could be in a secure facility for as long as 20 years — or get out sooner on a doctor's recommendation.

Kidnapped foreigners: The United Na-tions appealed Thursday to the Tali-ban-linked kidnappers of three of its staff in Afghanistan to release them in time for a Muslim festival starting this weekend.

Militants claiming to hold the three for-eigners say the Afghan government has agreed to free 26 of their jailed comrades as part of a prisoner exchange.

However, officials have yet to confirm any

deal with the kidnappers. Stories from The Associated Press

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'We will never forsake a fallen soldier'

Army IDs 880 injured GIs for new support program

BY LISA BURGESS Stare and Strings

ARLINGTON, Va. - Just seven months into a new Army program to give one-on-one long-term help to severely injured combat veterans, program officials have identified about 880 soldiers who are notentially eligible for the assistance, according to Col. Robert H. Woods, director of the Army's Human Resources Policy Directorate.

Speaking to reporters Wednesday at the Pentagon, Woods said that the "Disabled Soldier Support System," or DS3, as the program is called, has conducted interviews with 232 of those 880 soldiers, and is now preparing to hire social workers who will link them with the many government and private programs already in place to assist them.

"We will never forsake a fallen soldier," he said.

DS3 kicked off in April at the Army's headquarters in the Pentagon, in a joint announcement with Veterans Affairs, which is responsible for lifetime medical care for injured veterans.

The program is geared toward soldiers with a disability rating of 30 percent or greater, including amputees, severe burn cases and other grave injuries received as a of combat actions after

Sept. 11, 2001, Woods said. DS3 will team disabled soldiers with an advocate who will monitor the veteran for a minimum of five years, "providing di-rect support to soldiers and their families as they deal with the initial injury" and later, get on with their lives and careers, whether

military or civilian, Woods said. The program began with \$1 million in start-up funds, but Congress added significantly to that pot in the Pentagon's fiscal 2005 budget, setting aside \$4.5 million in fiscal 2005 for DS3, according to Col. Jacqueline Cumbo, chief of the Army's Human Factors Di-

With that money, program managers are preparing to hire the first of the 47 caseworkers that program managers intend to have in place "by the start of the new year," to assist the pilot group of 232 soldiers, Woods

"We're looking for 'gentle giants' who are willing to make phone calls and knock down doors" when their soldiers run into bureaucratic difficulties. Woods said

DS3 officials are aiming for a ratio of one caseworker for every 30 veterans, though that ratio may change as the program ma-

tures, Woods said. The program already has a two-person DS3 office located at Walter Reed Medical Center in Washington, where virtually all of its eligible participants end up for advanced health care and rehabilitation.

Although the program is still in the developmental stages, some soldiers have already benefited from its efforts, Woods noted.

One of those soldiers is Sgt Michael Cain, a former transportation specialist with the 4th Infantry Division's 299th Engineers in Tikrit, Iraq.

Cain, a Berlin, Wis., native, said the DS3 program "has done a damn good job" of helping him since he lost a leg to an anti-tank mine on Aug. 10, 2003.

Cain said he would have died had the fire from the mine's blast not cauterized the blood vessels in his severed right leg before fellow soldiers could "cut the door off to get me out of the vehicle '





Stars and Strines

Left: Col. Robert H. Woods, director of the Army's Human Resources Policy Directorate, said DS3 has interviewed soldiers and is now preparing to hire social workers who will link them with government and private assistance programs. Right: Sgt. Michael Cain, a transportation specialist with the 4th Infantry Division's 299th Engineers in Tikrit, Iraq, said Wednesday that the DS3 program "has done a damn good job" of helping him since he lost a leg to an anti-tank mine on Aug. 10, 2003.

He was evacuated first to a U.S. military combat support hospital in Baghdad, then to the Army medical center at Landstuhl, Germany, but did not regain consciousness until several days later, when he was at Walter

Cain was at Walter Reed for three months, during which time members of the DS3 program assisted in bringing first his parents, then his wife to Fisher House the residence where relatives of injured servicemembers stay when wounded soldiers are at the hospital, he said.

Cain, who now lives in Gladstone, N.D., with his wife Leslie and month-old son Desmond. said his experiences at Walter Reed have led him to decide to go to college to become a physical therapist so he can help other am-

It is soldiers like Cain, Woods said, that inspire DS3's staff to keep pushing the program for-

Every generation has its he-," Woods said, adding Cain and those like him "are this generation's heroes.

For more on DS3, go to: www.ArmyDS3.org or call (800) 833-6622. Disabled soldiers seeking job leads can go to www.ds3soldierconnection.army.mil E-mail Lisa Burgess at: bur-gessl@stripes.osd.mil

Marine dismissed after conviction in Iraqi POW's death

Major avoids year in prison for Camp White Horse incident

Prosecutors

contended

Paulus failed

to safeguard

Hatab's health

and welfare

and failed to

provide him

with proper

medical care.

BY SETH HETTENA The Associated Press

CAMP PENDLETON, Calif. - An officer convicted of dereliction of duty and maltreat ment of an Iraqi who died at the prison he commanded was sentenced to be dismissed from the service, despite his pleas to remain in the Marine Corps.

Maj. Clarke Paulus was acquitted Wednesday of the most serious charge of assault and battery the sentencing

During the sentencing phase of his court-martial Paulus held back tears as he stood before the jury and apologized to both the Marine Corps and to his family. "I hope the press would

have these charges reflect on me personally and not the Ma-rine Corps," he said, his voice He asked the eight officers

on the panel to allow him to remain in the Marine Corps, saying he had served honorably for more than a decade.

Prosecutor Maj. Leon Francis, however, told the jury that the suffering of Nagem Sa-doon Hatab "should amount to something."

Paulus' dismissal could take up to several months until all the legal paperwork is completed. He could have been sentenced to a year in military prison.

Paulus, 36, of the Philadelphia suburb of Buckingham, Pa., commanded the Marine detention facility at Camp Whitehorse in southern Iraq. He was accused of ordering a subor-dinate to drag Hatab by the neck out of a holding cell in June 2003 after the man suffered a ut of diarrhea

Hatab was stripped naked and left outside for seven hours before he was found dead.

Prosecutors contended Paulus failed to safe guard Hatab's health and wel-fare and failed to provide him

with proper medical care. The prosecutor had asked for a sentence of six months confinement and dismissal from the Marine Corps to set an example that enemy prisoners of war can't be mistreated.

The defense countered that Paulus acted properly under the circumstances. The major believed Hatab was an uncooperative prisoner who was faking illness and deliberately had soiled himself, civilian de fense attorney Keith Higgins

Higgins said his client was devastated by the jury's decision.

He accused the military of conducting a witch hunt and making an example of Paulus after the Abu Ghraib prison scandal

Paulus and his family left the courtroom without speaking to reporters.

Hatab, a 52-year-old member of Saddam Hussein's Baath Party, was arrested by Marines who suspected him of a role in an ambush which led to the capture of Pfc. Jessica Lynch, among others,

Abu Ghraib trials moved to Fort Hood

BAGHDAD, Iraq - The U.S. military announced Thursday that the courts-martial of three Army Reservists charged with abusing Iraqi detainees at Abu Ghraib prison will be transferred from Baghdad to Fort Hood Teyas

The trials of Sgt. Javal Davis, Spc. Sabrina Harman and Spc. Charles Graner Jr., had been set to begin next year in Baghdad.

No reason was given for the decision to move the trials to the United States. Lawyers for the accused had been pressing for a change of venue for months, in part because of problems bringing witnesses and attornevs to one of the world's most dangerous cities.

The statement said Graner's trial would begin Jan. 7 but gave no dates for the others. Harman is from Lorton, Va.

The Abu Ghraib scandal erupted last spring when photos became public, causing worldwide outrage about the physical abuse and sexual humiliation of inmates.

Most of those charged were in Iraq with the 372nd Military Police Company, based in Maryland. The scandal generated a world-

wide wave of revulsion which raised questions about the treatment of Muslim prisoners captured not only in Iraq but in Afghanistan and elsewhere as part of the Bush Administration's war on terror.

The accused claimed they were ordered by Military Intelligence and civil-ian contractors to "soften up" prisoners for interrogation and that they were unaware of restrictions against harsh treatment laid down in the Geneva Conven-

However, no one above the rank of staff sergeant has been charged in the case.

Spc. Jeremy C. Sivits of Hyndman, Pa., was sentenced to one year in jail and a discharge after pleading guilty in May to three counts. Spc. Armin Cruz, 24, a military intelligence soldier from Plano, Texas, was sentenced to eight months and a discharge for his part in the scan-

Staff Sgt. Ivan L. "Chip" Frederick II of Buckingham, Va., was sentenced Oct. 21 to eight years in prison after pleading guilty to eight counts - the most severe sentence so far.

Earlier this month, Spc. Megan Ambuhl, 30, of Centreville, Va., pleaded guilty at a summary court-martial in Baghdad to reduced charges of dereliction of duty for failing to prevent or report the maltreatment

Ambuhl was busted down to a private.



Wayne Parks, left, reads a tribute to veterans while Jeff Jamison, center and Rob Hood look on at the gravesite of a former servicemember in Revine Lago, Italy. A group of motorcyclists from Aviano. Italy, traveled 25 miles to pay him tribute on Veterans Day.

Journey of remembrance

Harley group rides to grave of WWI veteran

BY KENT HARRIS

Stars and Strings

REVINE LAGO, Italy - The life of Mogens George Jorgensen may forever be a mystery to a group of motorcycle enthusiasts based at Aviano Air Base. They just know he once served in the U.S. armed forces

But that didn't stop them from paying tribute on Veterans Day

It was the second straight year that members of the Aviano Chapter of Harley-Davidson owners visited the site where the senior master sergeant lies interred - an Italian cemetery at the base of the mountains about 25 miles northwest of the base

"Hopefully, for next year, we'll be able to find out more about this individual," said Wayne Parks, who serves as the unofficial sponsor of the chanter.

The site was only discovered during a search by members trying to locate the reported gravesites of a pair of Americans who served with the Italian air force in World War I. Two of the streets on base are named for them

"I've been to about seven cemeteries around here trying to find them," said Ross Martinka, a contractor on base

The placard where Jorgensen is interred says he was born in Denmark in 1939 and died in Germany in 1987. The group figures he married an Italian, and so is buried in Italy. It's possible he served at Aviano in the distant past

Parks placed an American flag amid the flowers adorning the placard, then read a few tributes to veterans before the group observed a moment of silence

When asked what the point of spending half the day traveling through 50-degree temperatures with brooding clouds hovering overhead, Parks replied: "To honor the people who have come before us.

"Harley groups tend to do things like this," said Jeff Jamison.

The group was a bit disappointed by the turnout. Only eight bikes - seven of them Harleys - made the trip this year. Last year, more than three times that number were present.



Members of the Aviano chapter of Harley-Davidson owners drive near snow-capped mounta Thursday on the way to pay tribute to a former servicemember on Veterans Day. The group visited the gravesite of Senior Master Sgt. Mogens George Jorgensen, who died in Gern ny in 1987 and is interred in Revine Lago, Italy.

But they were enough to turn more than a few Italian heads on the journey through a dozen small villages hugging the base of the Dolomite mountain range. And the weather, despite the threatening clouds, remained dry during the

Parks said the group would try to make a trip again next year on Veterans Day.

"Probably the same place, unless we can find Americans buried someplace else," he said. "In which case, maybe we'll visit them all."

Flu vaccine now on hand in Europe for priority cases

It is suggested

troops and family

members wash their

hands regularly.

cover their mouth

and nose when

coughing and

sneezing, exercise,

get plenty of sleep

and to stay home if

they do get sick.

By JON R. ANDERSON Stars and Stripe:

HEIDELBERG, Germany - Flu vac-

cine is now available — in limited quantities — for high-risk patients in Europe, according to Army officials.
"There is still a limited supply, but

we received a new shipment earlier this week and can now begin vaccinating high-risk patients in some areas. said Cynthia Vaughan, a spokeswoman for the Europe Regional Medical Com-

tions are being distributed to local hospitals and clinics, she said, "and more pected in the next few weeks."

Those interested should check their local clinics for availability.

The United States' flu vaccine United supply was cut in last month mair last month when officials found that nearly 50 million doses were contaminated The Army

made deployed troops the highest priority for the mili-tary's ration of the remaining vaccines. Those preparing to deploy are next on the list, followed now by those who are at high risk of contracting the flu.

High-risk categories include ■ Children 6-23 months ■ Adults 65 years and older

■ Pregnant women

■ Anyone with underlying chronic medical conditions, including pulmonary illnesses, such as emphysema, chronic bronchitis, or asthma; cardio vascular illnesses, such as congestive heart failure: chronic metabolic diseas-

dysfunction; sickle cell disease; or immunosuppression (including immunosuppression caused by medications or by human immunodeficiency virus (HIV)

■ Health care workers involved in direct patient care.

■ Out-of-home caregivers and house-

hold contacts of children less than 6

months. In lieu of vaccinations, officials are urging everyone else to adopt certain practices to help

remain healthy. "While getting vaccinated is the best prevention against influenza. there are several things people can do to make themselves less susceptible to influenza infection and to prevent spread-ing of the disease since most cold and flu viruses are spread by dicontact, Col. Kent Bradley, preventive medicine expert for forces in Eu-rope, said in a pre-

pared Army statement.

Bradley suggests troops and family members wash their hands regularly, cover their mouth and nose when coughing and sneezing, exercise, get plenty of sleep and to stay home if they do get sick.

So far, this year's flu season has been off to slow start among troops and family members in Europe, Vaughan said. With the first snows dusting southern and central Germany this week, however, that season is just starting.

E-mail Jon R. Anderson at: andersonj@mail.estripes.osd.mil

Shopping season in full swing



Shoppers check out the goods for sale at the Holiday Bazaar at the Benjamin Franklin Village Sports Arena in Mannheim, Germany. Shoppers can buy - among other things - wines and culinary specialties, Turkish and Italian tablecloths, Oriental rugs, jewelry, crystal and toys at the bazaar that runs through Sunday.

U.S. launches major attack in south Fallujah

Coalition fights Mosul uprising; Car bomb kills 17 in Baghdad

FALLUJAH, Iraq - U.S. forces backed by an air and artillery barrage launched a major attack Thursday into the southern half of Fallujah, trying to choke Sunni fighters in a shrinking cordon. The U.S. military estimated 600 insurgents have been killed in the offensive but said success in the city won't break Iraq's insurgen-

cy.
The Fallujah campaign has also sent a stream of American wounded to the military's main hospital in Europe. Planes carrying just over 100 bloodied and broken troops were arriving Thursday at Landstuhl Regional Medical Center in Germany, a day after 64 others were brought in.

The large number of wounded sent to Germany suggests that fighting may be more intense, at least in some areas, than the U.S. military had initially indicated.

Violence escalated dramatically in the northern Iraqi city of Mosul amid a campaign by guerrillas this week to sten un attacks elsewhere to divert troops from

U.S. deaths in Fallujah rise to 18

NEAR FALLUJAH, Iraq -Eighteen U.S. troops have been killed and 178 wounded in action since the start of the assault on Fallujah, the U.S. command said Thursday. Five allied Iraqi troops have also been killed and 34 wounded.

The U.S. military an-nounced the figures as commanders in Fallujah estimated that some 600 insurgents have been killed in the offensive which began Monday night. The commanders cautioned that the number was a rough

Maj. Gen. Richard Natonski, commander of the 1st Marine Division, said the operation was "ahead of schedule" and he saluted "the soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines and our Iraq comrades" taking part in the fight.

Natonski initially said 69 Americans have been wounded in the campaign. The military statement later said it was issuing an updated number.

Guerrillas attacked police stations in Mosul, overwhelming several, and U.S. and Iraqi troops were trying to put them down, the military said. The city governor was looking to neighboring provinces for police reinforcements as gunfire and explosions echoed across the city.

In Baghdad, a car bomb ripped through a crowded commercial street, killing 17 people, police said — the second deadly car bomb in the capital in as many

Since Monday, U.S. and Iraqi troops have been fighting their way through the northern half of Fallujah, reaching the east-west highway that bisects the city and hattling nockets of fighters trapped in the north while other insurgents fell back into the

After air and artillery barrages pummeled the southern districts through the day, U.S. soldiers and Marines launched their main assault across the central highway into the southern half, the mili-

Sunni fighters in the city appear to be trying desperately to break open an escape route through the U.S.-Iraqi cordon closing off the city's southern edge, commanders said. Insurgent mortar fire and attacks have focused on bridges and roads out of the city more than on U.S. descending from the north, they said.

Commanders say that since the offensive began, their seal around the city has been tight and that fighters still inside have little chance of escape. Some 15,000 U.S. and Iraqi troops are involved in the cordon and the assault inside the city.

U.S. military officials cautioned that the figure of 600 insurgents killed in Fallujah was only a rough estimate. The chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Gen. Richard Myers, said Thursday that "hundreds and hundreds of insur-gents" have been killed and cap-tured.

Commanders had said before the offensive began that 1,200 to 3,000 fighters were believed holed up in the city. But the speed of the U.S. advance has led some officers on the ground to conclude that many guerrillas aban-doned the city before the attack so they could fight elsewhere.

The number of civilian casualties in the city is not known. Most of the city's 200,000-300,000 residents are thought to have fled be-



U.S. Marines of the fifth division take cover as they push into the center of Fallujah, Iraq, on Thursday.

U.S. deaths in Iraq

As of Wednesday, at least 1,149 members of the U.S. military have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003, according to Associated Press and Defense Department counts. At least 877 died as a result of hostile action, the Defense Department said

The figures include three military civilians.

The British military has reported 74 deaths; Italy, 19; Poland, 13; Spain, 11; Ukraine, nine; Bulgaria, seven; Slovakia, three; Estonia, Thailand and the Netherlands, two each; and Denmark, El Salvador, Hungary and Latvia have reported one death each Since May 1, 2003, when President Bush declared

that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 1,011 U.S. military members have died, according to AP's count. That includes at least 768 deaths resulting from hostile action, according to the military's numbers

Since the start of U.S. military operations in Iraq, 8.458 U.S. servicemembers have been wounded in hostile action, according to the Defense Department's weekly tally.

The latest deaths reported by the military: A soldier was killed Wednesday when a road-side bomb detonated north of Baghdad.

A soldier was killed Tuesday while on patrol in southern Baghdad

The latest identifications reported by the mili-

■ Air Force Master Sgt. Steven E. Auchman, 37, Waterloo, N.Y.; killed Tuesday in a grenade attack in Mosul, Iraq; assigned to the 5th Air Support Operations Squadron, Fort Lewis, Wash ■ Marine Lance Cpl. Thomas J. Zapp, 20, Hous-

ton: killed Monday in hostile action in Anbar province, Iraq; Combat Service Support Battalion 1, Combat Service Support Group 11, 1st Force Service Support Group, Camp Pendleton, Calif.

■ Marine Cpl. Robert P. Warns II, 23, Waukesha, Wis.; killed Monday in Babil province; 2nd Battalion, 24th Marine Regiment, 4th Marine Division,

Army Command Sgt. Mai. Steven W. Faulkenburg, 45, Huntingburg, Ind.; killed Tuesday in small arms fire in Fallujah, Iraq; assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 2nd Infantry Regiment, Vilseck, Germany.

fore the offensive. The rest have "There has always been pockcrews were not injured and were been hunkered down in their ets of resistance in this type of fighting, just like there was in rescued. homes without electricity during days of heavy barrages, with food

fighting, just like there was in World War II — we would claim an island is secure and fight them for months after that," Capt. John Griffin said in Fallu-jah. "Claiming the city is secure doesn't actually mean that all the resistance is gone, it just means that we have secured the area and have control." Two U.S. Marine Super Cobra

attack helicopters were hit by ground fire and forced to land in separate incidents near Fallujah, the military said Thursday. The In the northern half of Fallujah, an Iraqi commander reported the

discovery of "hostage slaughter-houses" in which foreign captives had been killed. Documents of hostages were found, along with CDs showing beheadings and the black clothes of kidnappers, he

iid. Meanwhile, rebels have continued heavy attacks elsewhere in a campaign of violence meant to di vert troops from Falluiah and show they can keep up the fight even if their strongest bastion

More reservists have died in Fallujah than any other part of Iraq war

supplies reported low.

Myers, speaking on NBC's "Today" show, called the offen-

But he acknowledged that guer-

rillas will move their fight else-

where. "If anybody thinks that

Fallujah is going to be the end of

the insurgency in Iraq, that was

never the objective never our in-

tention, and even never our

sive "very, very successful."

BY ROBERT BURNS The Associated Press

WASHINGTON - More Army and Marine reservists have died in Iraq since the start of the Fallujah offensive than in any comparable period since American forces entered Iraq in March 2003.

At least nine reservists died on Monday

according to an Associated Press count Six were members of the Marine Corps Reserve, two were Army National Guard and two were Army Reserve.

More U.S. troops were killed Tuesday, but details on their service affiliations are incomplete.

Nine is the highest number of part-time soldiers and Marines to have died in Iraq

on a single day since the U.S. led invasion was launched in March 2003. The only comparable surge in deaths of reservists was in June 2004 when nine died in a four-day span, according to Pentagon records.

The Pentagon's reporting of casualties since the Fallujah offensive began Monday has been slower and more incomplete than normal, in part because the military believes that detailed information is of notential value to the insurgent forces they are battling in the Sunni Arab city. National Guard and Reserve troops have

played a prominent role in Iraq from the start of combat in 2003, and their numbers have grown in recent months. They now make up more than 40 percent of the total U.S. force in Iraq. There is no information on how many are now in Falluiah.

Perilous day for troops in the Danger zone

Attacks rain on Task Force Danger's sector during 24-hour period in Iraq

Stars and Strine:

FORWARD OPERATING BASE MACK-ENZIE, Iraq After a quiet early October Task Force Danger's sector of Iraq is living

up to its name.

During the 24-hour period ending at 4 p.m. Wednesday, the zone - a West Virginia-sized area north and east of Baghdad that stretches from Kirkuk south to Balad, and east to the Iranian border — recorded 48 at-tacks from roadside bombs, rocket-pro-pelled grenades and mortars. One 1st ID soldier was killed when his convoy struck a madside bomb near Balad

That was the most attacks in a single day since the 1st Infantry Division took control of the zones from the 4th Infantry Division in March. Attacks in the Danger zone have averaged about 100 per week, according to statistics compiled by the 1st ID's intelli-

"It's been an interesting day across Dansaid Lt Col Jim Chevallier command er of the 1st ID's 1st Squadron, 4th Cavalry

Regiment, at his nightly staff meeting

Eight of the attacks took place in the 1-4 Cavalry's Delaware-sized sector northeast of Samarra, said Capt. Scott Synowiez, 30, of Pinehurst, N.C., the unit's intelligence officer. That compares with an average of five to six per day before the late-September sweep to clear terrorists from Samarra, and

fewer than three per day since. Two nearly simultaneous attacks just



A young Iraqi soldier, his face a mask of pain, rides away from the aid station at Forward Operating Base MacKenzie in the back of an 203rd Iraqi National Guard Brigade truck with the bagged body of one of his comrades.

after noon Tuesday on a joint U.S.-Iraqi patrol and on a traffic-control checkpoint in the restive city of Ad Duluiyah killed one Iraqi soldier and injured five Americans from two engineer units. A rocket-propelled grenade attack on a checkpoint at 5:24 p.m. injured three 1-4 Cavalry soldiers.

Only one of the wounded — a soldier with a broken leg — was hurt badly enough to be evacuated to Germany, Synowiez said.

On Wednesday a powerful 107 mm rocket struck inside FOB MacKenzie, the second one to hit the camp in a week. Neither caused injury, but both were close enough to the command post that soldiers outdoors

were told to take cover.

The upswing in attacks is not unexpected, Synowiez said. This week is the last and most religiously significant week of the Islamic holy month of Ramadan. Monday was

lims believe prayers — or, to some extremists, acts of martyrdom — are more power-

"Everything you do is amplified," Synow-

The attack on Fallujah, about 50 miles southwest of MacKenzie, also has created an expected ripple effect as insurgents battle the U.S.-Iraqi assault there. During last spring's unsuccessful assault on the rebel stronghold. Synowiez said, attacks in the Danger zone spiked upward.

A third factor is the upcoming elections, for which candidate and voter registration recently began. Coalition leaders assume insurgents will try to disrupt them and are keeping most 1st ID and 1st Cavalry Divi-sion troops in Iraq through January as a pre-

Given the convergence of circumstances, Synowiez said, this Ramadan still has been relatively peaceful. Daily attacks remain below levels of a year ago, and deaths across the country are slightly below last year's for the same holiday month.

"It's been quieter than we expected, until the last couple of days," Synowiez said. "Once Ramadan ends, I see it getting a bit

The violence is nowhere near the levels to the south and west. Twenty-seven of 32 U.S. combat deaths reported during November have been in Baghdad, Fallujah or the Ma-rine-patrolled Al Anbar and Babil provinces south and west of there.

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'At least we've got survivability'

Nine Vietnam vets serving in Iraq team up for Veterans Day mission

BY RON JENSEN Stars and Stripes

LOGISTICAL AREA ANACONDA, Iraq They fought in a war that ended 30 years ago, but now find themselves fighting another one, alongside soldiers young enough to be their children.

Or grandchildren.

A group of veterans of the Vietnam War who have joined their country's latest fray marked Veterans Day Thursday by making up the crew of two Black Hawk helicopters and executing a mission.

It is not unusual for the Vietnam vets to fly down in Iraq, but they have never flown a mission made up of so many veterans of that war. Nine of the 10 crew members on the two aircraft were in Vietnam.

The 10th, Sgt. Jose Perez, a crew chief, is the grandson of a Vietnam vet

"It's an honor," Perez said before the mission Thursday morning, "I'm doing this for my grandfather. He lives in Puerto Rico."

The nine veterans had combined for more than 8,000 hours of combat flying in the war. Their time in Southeast Asia ranged from 1968 to 1971

The idea for the mission came from Chief Warrant Officer 4 Mike Chapman, 55, who flew UH-1 gunships in Vietnam for the 92nd Assault Helicopter Company and is now with the Louisiana National Guard's 244th Command Aviation Battalion

"I think it's a good thing," he said of the mission, which was to fly personnel to Fallujah. "It depicts that we're still here and we're still doing our job. We still have full dedication to God, duty and country

The helicopters that went on the mission were from the 1st Battalion, 106th Aviation Regiment and the 1st Battalion, 244th Aviation Regiment

When these veterans first flew in combat more than three decades ago, the concept of using helicopters in battle still was new They were on the frontier of that entire strategy.

Now, the Army is more likely to enter combat without helmets than helicopters, thanks, in part, to the aircraft's success in Vietnam.

Staff Sgt. Bona Dyal, who was a crew chief on a UH-1 in Vietnam, is now with the Florida National Guard



Helicopter crew members listen to a pre-mission briefing Thursday at Logistical Support Area Anaconda, Iraq, given by Chief Warrant Officer 4 Mike Chapman, right. Nine Vietnam War veterans were part of the two crews to mark Veterans Day. The 10th member of the crews is the grandson of a Vietnam veteran.

"It means a whole lot," he said of the mission. "At least we've got survivability

It is hard to compare today's soldiers with those of Vietnam, he said, because of the different technology and training. One thing, however, hasn't changed.

"[Soldiers] still got the same heart," Dyal said.

Chief Warrant Officer 4 John Wyatt Jr., 57, who was an air cavalry captain in Vietnam, said the biggest difference between the two wars is the lessened threat level in Iraq.

In Vietnam, "if you made it past 30 days, you were considered a veteran," he said In Iraq, the threat from enemy fire is minimal. He said he ex-

pects to leave without having lost a single soldier in his unit That was unheard of in Vietnam.

Of Thursday's flight, he said, "It's sort of a memorial for the ones that are no longer flying because they can't or they didn't make it home from Vietnam."

There was little time for talk as Chapman, Dyal, Wyatt and the other six veterans - Chief Warrant Officer 4 John Lanning, Chief Warrant Officer 4 Richard Erickson Chief Warrant Officer 4 Don Berres, Chief Warrant Officer 3 Ben Roche, Command Sgt. Maj. Wayne Eden and 1st Sgt. William Wellmon — joined Perez for a pre-mission briefing and then rushed to their choppers

They did, however, stop to pose for a group shot as a memento of the day, kidding one another about gray hair and no hair as they formed two lines.

Despite the wrinkles and the signs of age, the men are fit and ready to fly. They are doing one-year tours in Iraq just like their younger brethren

"It's a country worth fighting for," Wyatt said.

E-mail Ron Jensen at iensenr@mail.estripes.osd.mil

Good will building as troops work on projects in Djibouti

BY CHARLIE COON Stars and Stripes

DJIBOUTI CITY, Djibouti Doors are being hung on the girls toilets at Charles Facoud school so they can have privacy when

they use the bathroom. It's one of the little jobs that the U.S. military hopes will pay big dividends

"A lot of times the girls won't attend school because of this," said Marine Maj. Jeff Johnson, director of the engineering office at Combined Joint Task Force Horn of Africa at Camp Lemoni-

Johnson's troops aren't sponsoring big projects here but are doing a lot of little ones, such as roofs, lights, doors and painting.

They're putting Djiboutians, Kenyans and Ethiopians to work and hopefully making some long-term friends in the war on terrorism

Asked if he felt it was a good use of taxpayer money, Air Force 1st Lt. Chris Mercer, one of the engineers, replied in the affirma-

"It's phenomenal," Mercer

said "Economically, politically and lar-for-dollar return the U.S. government could get, in my opinion.

The things we do here influence so many people in subtle ways

The work tries to address common-sense needs.

An incinerator is being installed at the Dar El Hanan maternity clinic so a mother's medical wastes after birth can be burned instead of tossed into the trash.

A wall is being built around Balbala school to make it hard for vandals and thieves to get inside. "We're very happy to be work-ing with the Americans," said

Hassan Yusef, a contractor from Diibouti City. "As long as they're helping build the school for the kids,

while also the money is coming in, we're making two benefits at the same time.'

About 1,500 U.S. troops are stationed in Djibouti, a small, strategically important country in eastern Africa located across a narrow strait from the Arabian Penin-The U.S. military established a base at Camp Lemonier in May 2003 and mans it with members of the Marines, Army, Navy and Air Force

The task force doles out \$60,000 to \$120,000 for most jobs, according to Marine Master Sgt. Todd Tekesky, though some are cheaper and some a little more ex-

Jobs usually take between one and four months to complete. There are 60 projects currently

under way in various stages. African contractors pay their

workers \$2.50 per hour, the going rate in this part of the continent The CJTF-HOA engineering office consists of six engineers and

four contracting officers. Their jobs are spread over an area about the size of half the continental United States.

The African contractors who e hired to do the work must abide by two rules:

They must hire local laborers, and they can't leave behind scrap lumber, unused cement or other debris at the site of a finished job Besides that, the terms are

somewhat looser than in a more modern business climate. There are no exacting standards to be enforced.

The craftsmanship can be a little rickety, but at least the work is getting done.



CHARLIE COON/Stars and Stripes

An incinerator is being installed at the Dar El Hanan maternity clinic in Djibouti City so medical waste can be burned instead of thrown into the trash. The Combined Joint Task Force — Horn of Africa engineering office is overseeing the project.

"You can't be complex," Tekesky said. "You have to ac-cept that things aren't going to be done to U.S. standards.

Business-as-usual can vary depending on the country or tribe. In a part of Kenya, for exam-

ple, a tribe might have someone who is "the contractor," so that person is likely going to get the

The Americans don't want to ruffle feathers.

'Kenya is very tribal," Tekesky said, "and they'd prefer to keep it that way."

While projects in Djibouti City benefit certain people, such as a school's students, Mercer said projects out in the African bush make a more vast impact.

"There is no government out there - it's all tribal," Mercer

"The [projects] we do affect the entire community, the entire tribe. The tribe is their govern-

ment.
"The relationships we're building out there are doing a tremendous amount of good."

E-mail Charlie Coon at: coonc@mail.estripes.osd.mil

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Terror experts: Al-Qaida focused on more than Iraq

BY FRANK JAMES

Chicago Tribune

WASHINGTON - While President Bush has argued that the fights terrorists abroad to avoid fighting them at home, Osama bin Laden's re-emergence in a new videotape recently was a chilling reminder of how much bin Laden still wants to wage his international jihad on U.S. soil.

In its way, bin Laden's reap pearance cuts against the president's slogan - which was often repeated on the campaign trail but increasingly had been questioned by many observers, from terrorism experts to social commentators even before the al-Qaida leader's latest video.

"It's very much a reminder from (al-Qaida) that despite all that's going on in Iraq, Afghanistan, Pakistan and everywhere else, they are still very much focused on executing an attack " said Ben Venzke, chief executive officer of IntelCenter, which monitors terrorist groups and their activities.

Experts agreed that transnational and stateless terrorist groups, with their cells of operatives across the world, are quite capable of multitasking. "Believe it or not, al-Oaida can actually do two or more things at once," said

"It would be rather silly to think that just because the war began in Iraq that they packed up their entire infrastructure around the world, the support cells and execution cells," he said

What's more, al-Qaida has demonstrated that it is a patient organization with the ability to plan more than one attack at a time, he "It has multiple operations planned and in place over a peri-od of years," said Venzke.

Jenkins ticked off terrorist attacks linked to al-Qaida or affiliated groups since the Iraq war's start, including those in Jakarta, Karachi, Madrid, Istanbul, Riyadh Casablanca and most recently Egypt.

The attacks have occurred at the rate of one every three months, Jenkins said.

True, he added, there has been no terrorist attack in the U.S. since Sept. 11, 2001. That could be because the increased vigilance of the Homeland Security Department and other officials has made the United States a more difficult environment for terrorists, Jenkins observed. Moreover, some experts found

the argument that America is fighting terror abroad to avoid it at home simplistic

Pena said it falls short as policy "because the implication is we win this war by killing people. ... We're not dealing with a structure anymore, if we were ever. We are dealing with a radical Islamist ideology that is infusing itself inside the Muslim world. You don't win by just killing people.

IN THE WORLD

Palestinian leader Arafat dead at 75

Leader's body flown to Egypt for funeral

BY RAVI NESSMAN The Associated Press

RAMALLAH West Bank Yasser Arafat's body was being flown back to the Mideast for fu neral services after French and Palestinian officials honored him Thursday with a ceremony befitting a head of state.

Arafat's widow, Suha, wearing black coat and pants, stifled sobs as the Palestinian flag-draped coffin of her 75-year-old husband was carried off a military helicopter to an official French aircraft. The aircraft then left for Cairo, Egypt, where funeral services will be I Friday. Arafat, both revered as the

champion of Palestinian statehood and reviled as a terrorist, died Thursday morning, spreading spasms of grief among Palestinians and rekindling calls for new peace talks with Israel

Arafat's death marked a turning point in modern Middle East histo ry, leaving the Palestinians without a strong leader for the first time in four decades and arousing fears of a chaotic power struggle that could lead to fighting.

In a hurried effort to project continuity, the PLO elected former Palestinian Prime Minister Mahmoud Abbas as its new chief, virtually ensuring he will succeed Arafat as leader of the Palestinians, at least for an interim period.

The Palestinian legislature also swore in Parliament Speaker Rauhi Fattouh as caretaker president of the Palestinian Authority until elections can be held in 60 days, according to Palestinian law.



Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat's coffin, draped with the Palestinian flag, is loaded onto a French airplane Thursday to be flown to Cairo, Egypt, at Villacoublay air base southwest of Paris. Arafat died early Thursday at the Percy Military Training Hospital near Paris. He was 75.

Arafat died Thursday at a French military hospital. Neither his doctors nor Palestinian leaders said what killed him

A wave of grief swept across the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Thousands ran into the streets, clutching his photograph, crying and wondering how they would survive without the man who embodied their struggle for statehood.

"He is our father," Namia Abu-Safia, 48, said sobbing in the Jebaliya refugee camp in the Gaza Strip. "He is Palestine."

Black smoke from hurning tires rose across the Gaza Strip and gunmen fired into the air in grief. Fearing the grief could rapidly turn into rioting. Israel quickly moved to seal of the West Bank and Gaza

Strip and increased security at Jewish settlements

Arafat's body was taken from Percy Military Training Hospital and placed aboard a French army helicopter for a flight to Villacoublay military air base near Paris and a small ceremony involving Prime Minister French Jean-Pierre Raffarin, Foreign Minister Michel Barnier and Suha

From France, the body was flown to Cairo for a Friday morning funeral service to be attended foreign dignitaries. After the service, Arafat's body will be flown to Ramallah for burial.

Israel's military said West Bank Palestinians would be allowed to attend, though they would have to

peace in the Middle East

WASHINGTON - President Bush says he hopes Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat's death will clear the way for successful Mideast peace negotiations with new Palestinian leaders.

"The death of Vasser Arafat is a significant moment in Palestinian history," Bush said Wednesday after Arafat's death in a French hospital.

"We express our condolences to the Palestinian people. For the Palestinian people, we hope that the future will bring peace and the fulfillment of their aspirations for an independent, demo-cratic Palestine that is at peace

with its neighbors. Secretary of State Colin Powell paid tribute to Arafat as "a significant figure in the history of the region and the world, and, we know, in the eyes of the Palestin-

ian people." He said in a statement the Unit-

ed States would do all that it can to further Palestinian statehood. The State Department, meanwhile, issued a warning to Ameri-cans in the Middle East and North Africa that Arafat's death "has the potential to produce demonstrations and

throughout the region.' pass through checkpoints. Only VIPs will be permitted to come from Gaza, a military official said. adding that Israel had information that terror groups would use the fu-

neral to plan an attack. Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon, who has shunned his long-

Post-Arafat regime: Peace or chaos?

has rallied Muslims against the

West and fired up jihadists around the world. Now Palestin-

ians are hoping a second-term

Bush will take Israel to task, chief-

ly over Jewish settlements on Pal-

With his trademark headdress

revolutionary

and military garb. Arafat was one

of a dving breed — a charismatic.

who embodied the Palestinian

The statement urged Americans to "maintain a high level of

The first U.S. president to explicitly endorse establishment of a Palestinian state on land now held by Israel, Bush renewed that pledge immediately after his re-election last week

Bush shunned Arafat from the outset of his administration, refusing to invite him to the White

He sent Powell to talk to Arafat on the West Bank, but those contacts dwindled and eventually were cut off when the Bush administration concluded Arafat was inent and had not done enough to stop attacks on Israel. In June 2002, Bush urged the Palestinians to replace Arafat with leaders "not compromised by terror

In remarks made earlier Wednesday in anticipation of Arafat's death, Bush said: "There will be an opening for peace when leadership of the Palestinian people steps forward and says, 'Help us build a democratic

Gearing up for new Palestinian leadership, the United States has conveyed its strong support for elections within 60 Arafat's death.

time nemesis as a conniving terror-ist and obstructionist, said his death can serve as a "historic turn-ing point in the Middle East" and expressed hope the Palestinians would now work to stop terrorism. In a sign of the enmity the two men shared even in death, Sharon refused to mention Arafat by name.

European leaders: Push for peace

LONDON - European leaders on Thursday saluted Yasser Arafat's devotion to the Palestinian cause, mostly focusing on the positive side of his controversial legacy and expressing hope that his death might create an opportunity to achieve his dream of an independent state. "With him disappears the

man of courage and conviction who, for 40 years, has embodied the Palestinians' combat for recognition of their national rights," said French President

hosted the Palestinian leader in his dying days. "May the loss that they have just suffered unite the Palestinians."

British Prime Minister Tony Blair — who is expected to press for a Middle East peace push in his planned meeting with President Bush on Friday in Washington, said Arafat "led his neonle to an historic accentance and the need for a two-state solution." He said that was something "we must continue to work tirelessly to

The Associated Press Jacques Chirac, whose nation

BEIRUT, Lebanon - Palestinian refugees scattered in Arab nations greeted word Thursday of Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat's death with grief, anger and frustration, losing the man who instilled hope they may one day return home.

From Amman, Jordan, to Damascus, Svria, through the shantytowns of southern Lebanon and into the squalid quarters of Sabra and Chatil-Is camps in Beirut, Palestinians in black marched and wept.

Shouts of "Death to Israel" and "We will return to Palestine" rang

out from the crowds along with volleys of gunfire. "It feels like I lost a father and a good friend," said 55-year-old Mo-

hammed Sbeiha in a cracking voice. From The Associated Press

Palestinian refugees mourn Arafat's passing

Bush's war on terror has suffered from four years of Israe-li-Palestinian bloodshed, which

By STEVEN GUTKIN The Associated Press Analysis

estinian land.

self-proclaimed

dream of statehood.

JERUSALEM - The death of Yasser Arafat opens doors to both chaos and peace. Which it will be depends on whether his successors rein in the bombers, whether Israel returns to negotiations and whether President Bush will throw in his weight.

Both sides face a new situation. Arafat never groomed a succes-

sor, and any new leadership is likely to seem colorless compared to him, but that could come as a relief to Palestinians more eager for results than drama.

On Israel's side Arafat's denar-By contrast, the two men exture deprives Prime Minister pected to wield most power in Pal-Ariel Sharon of his main excuse estinian politics — Prime Minisfor not negotiating with the Palester Ahmed Qureia and his predetinians Israel and the United States had long dismissed Arafat cessor, Mahmoud Abbas - aren't particularly popular, and they likely will need some early sucas an obstacle to peace, saying he was tainted by terrorism and amcesses to gain the credibility and bivalent about the Jewish state's confidence necessary for any right to exist. peace process.

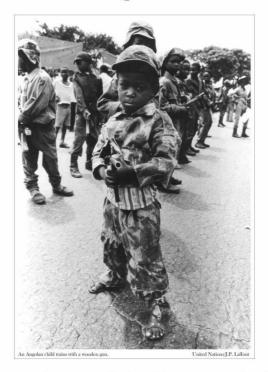
However, many of the cards are held by Israel, which should make some gestures, says left-wing Is raeli politician Yossi Beilin. He suggests lifting the roadblocks that make daily life tough for Palestinians, releasing prisoners and giving the new Palestinian leadership some breathing room.

Qureia and Abbas "have to be empowered and strengthened by the world and by Israel" so that they can "show that they can de-liver the goods," Beilin said. But whether they will still be in

ower in a few months is uncer tain. Presidential elections must be held within 60 days after Arafat's death, according to Pales tinian law

Arafat's Palestinian Authority has been badly weakened by four years of conflict with Israel, and Arafat couldn't stem growing lawlessness in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. If new Palestinian leaders are to succeed where Arafat failed, militant groups such as Hamas and Islamic Jihad may have to be brought into the system. That could make them less likely to attack Israelis, or they could sense a power vacuum and intensify their violence.

Child, or child soldier? He doesn't get to choose.



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S. Africa to open talks amid unrest in Ivory Coast

Hundreds of foreigners begin to evacuate violence-ridden nation

The Associated Press

ABIDJAN, Ivory Coast — Airliners shuttled hundreds of trapped foreigners out of the Ivory Coast on Thursday as South Africa convened urgent peace talks on a crisis that it said threatend to destabilize West Africa.

Residents in the commercial capital, meanwhile, stared hopelessly at the burned-out wreckage of their shops and offices as a measure of calm returned to Abidjan after five days of anti-foreigner mob violence.

France and other nations launched the evacuations Wednesday.

Convoys sent out by the U.S. Embassy and other nations gathered foreigners from their homes while French soldiers in boats plucked some trapped citizens from the banks of Abidjan's lagoons.

A French official has said between 4,000 to 8,000 of its 14,000 citizens wanted to leave, a number that alone would make it one of the largest evacuations of Africa's post-independence era.

The mayhem, checked only intermittently by Gbagbo's government, has been unanimously condemned by his fellow African leaders and drawn moves toward U.N. sanctions. It threatens lasting harm to the economy and stability of Ivory Coast, the world's top cocca producer and once West Africa's most peaceful and prosperous nation.

South African Foreign Affairs spokesman Ronnie Mamoepa said President Thabo Mbeki would open the talks later Thurs day in Pretoria, South Africa.

Ivorian rebel and opposition leaders, including former Prime Minister Alassane Outtara, were expected to participate, South African Deputy Foreign Affairs Minister Aziz Pahad said.

The violence began Saturday when Ivory Coast warplanes killed nine French peacekeepers and an American ald worker in an airstrike on the rebel-held north in three days of government air attacks that violated a more than year-old cease-fire in the country's civil war.

Including the airstrike, the turnoil since Saturday has claimed at least 27 lives and wounded more than 1,000. The toll, likely incomplete, includes the 10 victims of the airstrikes, five loyalists whose bodies were shown on state TV, and 11 loyalists and one state TV, and 11 loyalists and one treated by hospitals on Monday and Tuesday, Ivory Coast presidential spokesman Alain Toussaint said 37 loyalists had died.

At the request of the United States, Spain will evacuate at least 90 Americans, Foreign Minister Miguel Angel Moratinos

About 20 Americans landed Wednesday night in Ghana, on a Canadian-organized evacuation flight.

Evacuees also included some UN. employees and others among 1,500 expatriates holed up at U.N. offices around Abidjan. More than 1,600 others — most of them French, but also citizens of 42 other countries — had taken refuge inside a French military camp.

4,000 inmates escape from Ivory Coast prison

The Associated Pres

ABIDIAN, Ivory Coast — More than 4,000 immates of Ivory Coast's largest penitentiary escaped through the sewers amid massive political violence and are believed hiding out in a forest in the middle of Abidjan, officials said Thursday.

"A lot" of the prisoners, murderers, robbers and other hard-core of

"A lot" of the prisoners, murderers, robbers and other hard-core offenders among them are believed to have made their way into the city itself, a Justice Ministry official said.

The breakout came from Saturday to Monday, the official said, as violent street protests targeting the French in this former French colony overran Abidjan, killing at least 17 people and wounding more than 900.

Military police guarding the outside of the prison were diverted to deal with the street violence. Prisoners wrested off a manhole cover and made their way out. The mayhem outside the prison followed chaos within prison walls.

Prisoners rioted last week after at least five days without water at the prison. The uprising killed at least seven people, and left several buildings of the prison in the inmates' hands, officials said.

Germans dance in the streets to celebrate Fasching



MICHAEL ABRAMS/Stars and Strip

At exactly 11:10 on 11/11 the carnival season, sometimes called the fifth season, got under way. Thousands of celebrants gathered in Mainz, Cernamy, to kick of the sifty season, with the traditional Mainz carnival greeting of "Helatu" The climax of the partying is with the big Rose parades on Feb. 7, 2005 and ending the next day, Fat Tuesday.

Smoking ban to take effect in Scotland

The Associated Press

EDINBURGH, Scotland — Scotland will ban smoking in enclosed public places, First Minister Jack McConnell said, confirming an expected move to follow Ireland in enacting a sweeping ban.

McConnell said Wednesday that the legislation would be launched before Christmas, proposing a target date of spring 2006 for full implementation. Licensees or employers who violated the law would face fines up to \$4,600, and persistent offend-

ers could lose their licenses.
Individual smokers would face fines up to \$1,850.
"Too many people smoke, and too many people die or fall ill from cancer, stroke and heart disease,"
McConnell told the Scottish Parliament. "The single largest cause of preventable premature death in Scotland is smokine."

The British Medical Association the Royal College of Nursing and the public sector union Unison all supported the ban. The Medical Association said smoking-related diseases kill 13,000 people in Scotland each year.

Operators of pubs and bars, represented by the Scottish Licensed Trade Association, said a ban would cost them business and result in jobs being lost.

Speaking before the Cabinet meeting confirming the decision to ban smoking, Deputy Health Minister Rhona Brankin said politicians had a responsibility to save lives.

"Scotland has one of the worst health reputations in western Europe, with one in four of all death attributable to smoking," she said in an interview with the British Broadcast Corp.



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IN THE STATES



President Bush participates in a Veterans Day wreath-laying ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknowns at Arlington National Cemetery on Thursday in Virginia.

Bush honors vets at Tomb of Unknowns

BY JENNIFER LOVEN The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Bush paused on Veterans Day on Thursday to honor American soldiers who have died in Iraq and Afghanistan during his presidency and in wars past.

As he spoke, U.S. warplanes and artillery pounded insurgents west of Baghdad.

west of Isagnaaa.

"Some of tomorrow's veterans are in combat now in Iraq," Bush said at Arlington National Cemetery, where he laid a wreath on the Tomb of the Unknowns.

"They have a clear mission to defeat the terrorists and aid the rise of a new government that can defend itself. They are making us proud... They are winning."

Bush also honored the 25 million living U.S. veterans. "Our nation thanks them all," he said in a somber address.

Smithsonian explores Americans at war

BY FRANK DAVIES
Knight Ridder Newspapers

WASHINGTON — The iconic artifacts of war are all there, as you would expect at the Smithsonian Institution: George Washington's sword, the furniture Grant and Lee used at Appomattox, Va., Colin Powell's battle-dress uniform worn during the Persian Gulf War.

But an ambitious exhibit that tells the story of America at war — it opened on Veterans Day — goes beyond the "great man" way of remembering history to honor what's important on Veterans Day: the lives and sacrifices of average soldiers who fought and died from Yorktown, Va, to the streets of Fallujah, Iraq.

First-person narratives on video describe how a Southern spy operated in Washington during the Civil War, how a Marine



Army World War II veteran Lester I. Tenney of Phoenix, who was a prisoner of war for more than three years in the Philippines and Japan, tours the Smithsonian exhibition "The Price of Freedom: Americans at War" after a dedication ceremony on Wednesday in Washington.

survived the horrors of combat in the Pacific and the night a badly wounded medic treated the men around him during an ambush in Vietnam.

Next to the familiar photos of leaders during Vietnam are the combat boots, dog-eared letters, peace buttons and six-packs of Budweiser left at Washington's

Vietnam Veterans Memorial. The Smithsonian's fresh look at Americans at war also does not avoid controversy, or the reality that some conflicts — the 1846-48 Mexican War, the 1898 Spanish-American War and Vietnam — deeply divided the country.

Ulysses S. Grant, in his memoirs, writes the Mexican War was "one of the most unjust ever waged," and the exhibits feature the argument over whether U.S. leaders were pursuing empire in the wars against Mexico and

Finance threat level is lowered

BY TOM HAYS

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Assured that improved security has diminished the possibility of an attack, local officials and workers at five eastern U.S. financial institutions expressed relief — tempered with caution — after federal authorities lowered the terror threat alert status there from orange to yellow.

"I just hope they're right," Rafael Camargo, an employee at the Citigroup Center building in Manhattan, said Wednesday after the announcement in Washington.

Robert E. Selsam, senior vice president of Boston Properties, manager of Citigroup's 59-story tower, called the decision "wellcome news," but added that security measures would not be loosened.

"We're going to continue to maintain the highest standards of security for all our buildings," he said.

Federal officials said better security precautions had reduced the threat at Citicorp building, the New York Stock Exchange in New York, the International Monetary Fund and World Bank buildings in Washington and Prudential Financial Inc.'s headquarters in Newark N.J.

The lowering to yellow, the midpoint on the government's five-level terror warning system, comes three months after the alert was raised because of concerns the institutions and the areas around them could be al-Quaida targets. Yellow is "elevated," while orange is considered a "high" threat of attack.

Authorities had raised the alert on Aug 1 in response to intelligence indicating al-Qaida had conducted surveillance of the buildings. However, counterterror officials later acknowledged that much of the intelligence was at least several years old. They defended their decision to raise the alert because of al-Qaida's record of extensive planning and plotting.

During the weeks leading up to the election, the Bush administration repeatedly warned that al-Qaida could mount an attack aimed at disrupting the democratic process. They cited March train bombings in Madrid linked to al-Qaida just prior to Spain's elections. Spanish voters elected new leadership.

TV stations cancel 'Saving Private Ryan' for fear of FCC

BY LEON DROUIN KEITH

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — More than 20 ABC affiliates around the country have announced that they won't take part in the network's Veterans Day airing of "Saving Private Ryan," saying the acclaimed film's violence and language could draw sanctions from the Federal Communications Commission.

The decisions mark a twist in

the conflict over the aggressive

stand the FCC has taken against obscenity and profanity since Janet Jackson flashed the world during the last Super Bowl half-

Steven Spielberg's Oscar-winning movie aired on ABC with relatively little controversy in 2001
and 2002, but station owners— including several in large markets
— are unnerved that airing it
Thursday could bring federal punishment. The film includes a violent depiction of the D-Day inva-

"It would clearly have been our

preference to run the movie. We think it's a patriotic, artistic tribute to our fighting forces," Ray Cole, president of Citadel Communications, told AP Radio. The company owns three ABC affiliates in the Midwest.

An FCC spokeswoman said Wednesday that the agency does not monitor television broadcasts, but responds to complaints.

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GOP pulls ahead in Washington governor's race

By DAVID AMMONS

The Associated Press

OLYMPIA, Wash. - Republican Dino Rossi has pulled ahead of Democrat Christine Gregoire in the Washington governor's race, and he boldly announced a transition team to prepare for his possible ascent to nower

The contest ended in a virtual dead heat on Election Day and has remained tight ever since as officials tally hundreds of thousands of mail hallots. Most Washington state residents cast ballots through the

Rossi first pulled ahead of Gregoire on Tuesday; he was leading by about 3,500 votes Wednesday

Thousands of ballots still have to be counted, and both sides have said the race probably will go on until the final rush of provisional ballots are tallied next Wednesday. A recount is automatic if the gap is less than 2.000 votes

Rossi, a 45-year-old former state senator and real estate investor, was the first to publicly talk about putting together a transition team. But he insisted that he is just getting ready, not presuming victory or sending any aggressive signals.

"It's prudent, that's all," he said in an interview. "One thing you can't get back is time. We've already lost a week and it could be Thanksgiving or longer until we know for sure, and they won't be moving the inauguration date.

Gregoire, a three-term attorney general. also has a transition effort under way, but said it is premature to talk about it before all the votes are counted. State Democratic Chairman Paul Berendt called Rossi's transition announcement Tuesday presumptuous and inappropriate.

"Chris Gregoire is going to be Washington's next governor. Dino can work on his transition plans, as Chris has, but there's no need to hold a press conference and talk about it. It's nothing but game-playing.



George W. Bush takes the presidential oath from Chief Justice William Rehnquist on Capitol Hill in this Jan. 20, 2001 file photo.

Pomp, pageantry on tap for Bush's inauguration

BY EILEEN PUTMAN The Associated Press

WASHINGTON - When President Bush takes his second oath of office Jan. 20 it will be his family's fifth inauguration ceremony, a day of pomp and pageantry set amid the icons of democracy only this city can provide: the U.S. Capitol, the White House, Pennsylvania Avenue

Security will be extraordinary - it's the first presidential inau guration since the Sept. 11, 2001 terror attacks, and the nation is under a continuing threat by Osama bin Laden's al-Qaida orga-

But that is not expected to alter the elaborate rituals by which the nation installs its president. For Bush's second inauguration. those rituals provide a regal subtext, the crown jewel in the Bush political dynasty: His father, George H. W. Bush, was inaugurated twice as vice president, in 1981 and 1985, and once as president, in 1989.

With 21-gun fancy-dress balls and tighter-than-ever security, the day will resemble nothing so much as a coronation

"We don't have the unifying effect of a king or queen. As a result, over the centuries America has developed traditions that encourage stability and public confidence. That's what an inauguration is," said Larry Sabato, director of the Center for Politics at the University of Virginia.

Among those traditions are: a

preinaugural church service for the incoming president and first lady, a congressional escort to the Capitol for the public swearing-in, a presidential inaugural address that sets forth a vision for the new term, a luncheon in the Capitol's famed Statuary Hall and a 1.7-mile procession along Pennsylvania Avenue to the White House before a massive, cheering crowd.

With U.S. soldiers fighting in Irag. the inauguration is expected to be filled with patriotic symbols - a Capitol festooned in red, white and blue; prayers for those overseas; military salutes underscoring the fact that the president is the commander-in-chief.

"This is where we all come together to show our support for our country and our form of government," said Sen. Trent Lott, R-Miss., who chairs the congressional committee that is coordinating the inaugural plans with White House Chief of Staff Andy

The Bushes, said Steve Hess, senior fellow at the Brookings In-stitution, will "have to be very cautious to make sure nothing is perceived as in bad taste because there are Americans in harm's way. It will be a celebration of bringing democracy and freedom to other people.

The Homeland Security Department has designated the inauguration a national security special event, which makes the day's high-profile gatherings eligible for federal money and heightened security overseen by the Secret Service.

Ohio still counting ballots in presidential vote

BY CONNIE MABIN

The Associated Press

CLEVELAND - Thanks to John Kerry's conces sion speech, Ohio's election workers don't exactly have the eyes of the nation on them, but their job of nd counting the state's provisional ballots

is as difficult and time-consuming as ever.

Officials in the state's 88 counties must check 155,337 provisional ballots to ensure they are valid, then count them in a process that is expected to take

another week or more.

With President Bush leading the Democratic presidential nominee Kerry by more than 136,000 votes in the pivotal state in unofficial returns, it would be practically impossible for provisional ballots to

change the outcome.

That means Ohio elections workers aren't under the microscope the way Florida's were after the contested 2000 presidential election.

Still, voters "want to know if their vote counted. If not, they want to know why, and we're giving them that this election," said Debbie Ford, a Franklin County voter services supervisor.

Elections employees are using the names on enve-lopes containing the provisional ballots to determine whether people meet registration requirements, and whether they voted in the correct precinct. Valid ballots are eventually added to each county's

vote count report, which must be approved by Demo crat and Republican board members. Any disputed provisional ballots will be voted on by the members. Republican Secretary of State J. Kenneth Blackwell will break any ties.

"This is a time-consuming process, just making sure that every ballot is accounted for," said Michael Vu, director of the bustling Cuyahoga County elections board in Cleveland.

The state gives boards until Dec. 1 to count and certify every vote. The state has set up a toll-free number for voters to find out if their ballot was counted and if not, why

In 2000, about 107,000 of the 123,518 provisional ballots were deemed valid, or about 87 percent. If that nercentage holds for the 2004 election Kerry wouldn't win even if every single provisional ballot were somehow cast for him.



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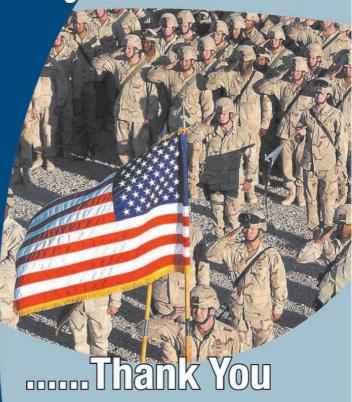
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Latest conspiracy: Kerry won election

BY MANUEL ROIG-FRANZIA AND DAN KEATING

The Washington Post

MIAMI — The e-mail subject lines couldn't be any bigger and bolder: "Another Stolen Election," "Presidential election was hacked," "Ohio Fraud."

Even as Sen. John Kerry's campaign is steadfastly refusing to challenge the results of the presidential election, the bloggers and the mortally wounded party loyalists and the spreadsheet-wielding conspiracy theorists are filling the Internet with head-turning allegations. There is the one about more ballots cast than registered voters in the big Ohio county anchored by Cleveland. There are claims that a suspicious number of Florida counties ended up with Bush vote totals that were far larger than the number of registered Republican voters. And then there is the one that might be the most popular of all: the exit polls that showed Kerry winning big weren't wrong - they were right.

Each of the claims is buoyed by enough statistics and analysis to sound plausible. In some instances, the theories are coming from respected sources—college engineering professors fascinated by voting technology, Internet journalists, election reform activists. Ultimately, none of the most

opular theories holds up to close scrutiny. And the people who most stand to benefit from the conspiracy theories — the Kerry campaign and the Democratic National Committee — are not biting.

The Ohio vote-fraud theory appears to stem from the curious ways of the Cuyahoga County Board of Elections. During even-numbered years the county's canvassing board posts vote totals that include the results from outside the county from congressional districts that spill over Cuyahoga's borders. The quirk made it look as if the county had 90,000 more votes than voters.

There also have been reports of more votes counted than voters in some counties in Florida and North Carolina. Steve Ansolable-bere of the Caltech-MIT Voting Technology Project said the pre-liminary results do not add up. "We'll see if there's anything dramatic or widespread once we see the full certifications come in," he said.

The Florida case is more manced than the Ohio voting battle. Numerous bloggers have noted that President Bush's vote totals in 47 Florida counties were larger—than the number of registered Republican voters in the same counties. A widely distributed piece on the same of the counties of the same of the counties of the same counties. A widely distributed piece on substances of the same counties. A widely distributed piece on the same of the counties are so statistically stumning that they border on the unbelievable."

The article's main numbers are correct. But the central premise — that there is something suspicious about Bush getting more votes than the number of regis-

Bloggers, party loyalists fill Internet with head-turning accusations

tered Republicans in rural counties, which use paper ballots —

may not be suspicious at all.
"Florida has always been the land of the Dixiecrats," said Walter R. Mebane Jr., a professor of government at Cornell University who specializes in voting issues. "In Florida, as you go north,

you go south."

Despite its apparent flaws, the

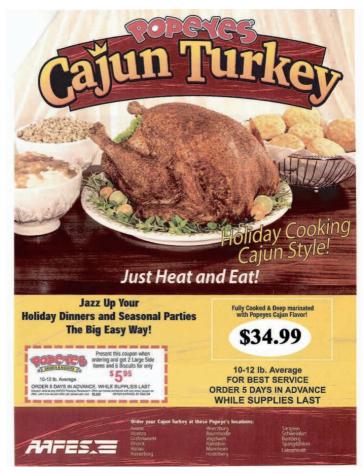
Florida theory raises some interesting questions. For instance, a further look at Florida voting patterns shows that the number of counties with more Bush votes than registered Republicans jumped from 32 in 2000 to 47 in 2004. Bush's improved performance might be explained by Gore, a Southern moderate, having had more appeal to Discipciarsis

four years ago than Kerry, who is from Massachusetts, did in this election.

The theories on exit polls are even more slippery. Because the early exit polls that were leaked and caused so much excitement among Democrats are not publicly distributed, the criticisms have not been based on statistics. In stead there are comments such as

those from Zvi Drezner, a professor at the California State University at Fullerton business and economics school, who wrote that "the exit polls did not 'lie" and described "a gut feeling that the machines did not report the correct count."

Keating reported from Washington. Staff writers Paul Farhi and Susan Schmidt in Washington contributed to



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New findings tarnishing arthritis drugs

BY DIEDTRA HENDERSON

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON - One by one, arthritis drugs that promised to ease pain without causing ulcers

are losing their luster. In September, Merck & Co. vanked Vioxx from the market when a trial showed that long-term use of the painkiller nearly doubled the risk of heart attack and stroke

This week, researchers said a preliminary study indicated that Bextra - another painkiller in the same class - also more than doubled the risk of heart attacks and strokes among patients with heart disease

Pfizer, which manufactures Bextra, said researchers made "unsub-stantiated conclusions" during their presentation at the annual meeting of the American Heart Association in New Orleans.

Gays meet in Št. Louis to discuss elections

BY CHERYL WITTENAUER The Associated Press

ST. LOUIS - Organizers of the United States' first national gay and lesbian conference since last week's presidential election say resounding voter passage gay-marriage bans in 11 states has been hard to bear, leaving members devastated and fearful.

Matt Foreman of New York, ex ecutive director of the National Gay and Leshian Task Force likened the blow to a death, with soul searching in order.
"Our movement needs to re-

roup and buckle down," said Sue Hyde of Cambridge, Mass., director of the "Creating Change" con-ference that runs through Sunday.

Last week's presidential election saw 11 more states pass constitutional amendments banning gay marriage. Missouri and five other states already had passed similar measures.

It's tough when "the vast majori-

ty of citizens in your state not only do not understand you but take hostile steps to change the Constitution to take away rights we never even had," Foreman said.

Still, organizers are taking the long view, knowing that gay peo ple have moved beyond past dis-

criminatory practices.

On Nov. 2, 40 gay candidates were elected to local, state and federal offices, according to the Gay & Lesbian Victory Fund, the nation's largest gay and lesbian political action committee.

Foreman said the gay-rights movement cannot retreat from working for social and legal rights, though the battle is "extremely up-

About 2,000 people are expected to attend the conference, which is sponsored by the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force.

The company also said the research was "based on information that has not been published in a medical journal or subject to inde-

pendent scientific review The news sent a ripple through the meeting and caused the compa-ny's stock to tumble.

Pfizer already has told regula-tors it will add to its packaging a black box warning, the most strident alert, to warn consumers of a fatal skin reaction linked to Bextra.

Scientists renewed a can local more studies of the painkillers in patients with heart disease, the group likely to suffer the most group likely to suffer the most harm from this class of drugs known as cox-2 inhibitors. For clinicians at Kaiser Permanente, which serves 8.3 million patients, the Bextra study already has prompted discussion of safer alternatives. And some pressured the Food and Drug Administration to halt advertising directed at con-

sumers

people's lives. Ironically, they're inducing heart attacks and may be losing people's lives," said Dr. Eric J. Topol, a Cleveland Clinic cardiologist who was among the first to warn about heart wees associated with the new painkillers.

Kathleen Quinn, an FDA spokeswoman, could not say which actions the agency would take.

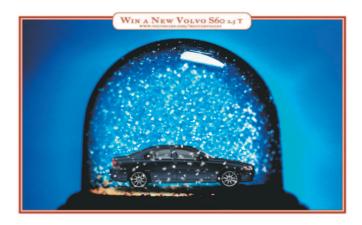
Ouinn said the FDA has not ac-

celerated the timing of an upcom

ing meeting on cox-2 inhibitors. What's a consumer to do between now and then? Experts give

contrasting advice.

The cox-2 drugs were praised for blocking the enzyme that causes the pain and swelling of arthri-tis inflammation. The drugs, however, were selective in their targets, bypassing the cox-1 enzyme that helps the stomach maintain a protective lining.



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YOUR MONEY

Bargain hunting online

Discount site allows shoppers to compare prices on Web

BY DON OLDENBURG The Washington Post

With the holidays ahead, some consumers will begin shifting their attention to finding bargains. Andrew Moss is counting

"The focus the first couple of months will be on shoppers shop ping for gifts," says Moss founder and CEO of Cairo, an online site launched last week that searches out items on sale at the stores nearest you - wherever

von are nationwide Cairo's concept trades on the growing trend of shoppers researching purchases online before buying from local retailers. A study by the Dieringer Research Group, a business strategy consultant, reported last month that spending on off-line purchases made by consumers who conducted online research totaled \$180.7 billion a year and is growing faster than online purchases, which totaled \$106.5 bil-

Calling "cross-channel shop-ping" the "new wave of com-merce," Forrester Research, which tracks business and technology markets, reported in September that 65 percent of online consumers were researching products online before buying them off-line. Forty-eight percent said the main reason was that they wanted to see the product before buying it.

"It's really just about making you a much smarter shopper and saving you a lot of time and money," says Moss.

Moss designed Cairo to give consumers easy online access to the "richness of information out there" so they can save "usually 30 to 40 percent discount from the retail price."

Shoppers key in their ZIP code or city name at Cairo.com. then search for local store sales by specific item, product categobrand, merchant or price range. Click "search" and it collects sales information from the online and local newspaper ads of up to 26 retailers, depending on your location, including Best Buy, Circuit City, Kmart, Tar-get, Kohl's, Home Depot, Lowe's, Sears, Staples and Toys R Us. Results can be sorted by relevance, price or distance to

Cairo product manager Tamara Pattison says the site is named to conjure up an image of "a marketplace with lots of products, vendors and price points (where) shoppers can find anything they need at the price they

Shoppers willing to register at Cairo (requiring name, address and e-mail) can use several additional consumer-friendly fea-tures. The site provides rebates and price guarantees offered by stores and manufacturers on items you buy. It e-mails you alerts if a product you want goes on sale or its price drops. It lets you compare sale prices with online retailer prices. And it tracks advertised sale prices on a guaranteed-price item you've bought and alerts you if it sells for less at another store and you're owed

Cairo isn't the first online bargain engine. There are dozens of price-comparison Web sites including Google's Froogle, BizRate and America Online's In-Store, which was launched in September. But they aren't localized to brick-and-mortar sales. and they aren't all sale-focused.

As for local-focused shoppers online, ShopLocal, which opened for business in August, searches sales primarily from the online circulars published by its parent company, Cross Media Services, and SalesCircular locates sale-priced items by state only

Cairo differs because its services aren't tied to its business relationships. Instead, it is modeled after the Google design that advertising on the right-hand column from its own

"Our search results are not influenced in any way by advertis-ing or pay placement," Moss "The search result you see will be absolutely the best for the consumer.

Flaming Honda CR-V freaks out new owner

disap-

pointing, be-

cause he said

he had never

eard of this

Dear Tom and Ray: I was pretty freaked out recently to learn that more than 20 2003-04 Honda CR-Vs had 2003-04 Honda CR-Vs had caught fire after their first oil ange. I own a 2003. I called my dealership, and the service manager gave me a story about fly-by-night oil-change places and basically patted me on the head and told me not to worry. This begs the question of owners who change their own oil. I went in for my second oil change and had a chat with the manager. It

> Click and Clack Tom and Ray Magliozzi

problem! I wasn't happy and told him that I felt scared and that if anything ever happened to myself or my family, I would sue his dealership and Honda. He told me that he didn't want a customer like me and offered to buy me out (at a fair price). I spent a lot of time researching cars before I bought the CR-V. It's not a perfect car (gas mileage/road noise), but it is comfortable and easy to drive. What do you think I should do? Thanks. — Mel

RAY: Geez, I just assur those fires were due to Honda's factory gas-grill option. TOM: It's a tough one, Mel.

Here's what's happened so far: The fires have been reported in 2003 and 2004 Honda CR-Vs. And they seem to happen immediately after oil changes

RAY: The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration the folks who can order recalls looked into it last spring. And they agreed with Honda that the problem was sloppy mechanics. Honda says that every CR-V fire had a "double gasket" on the oil filter - which means that the mechanic didn't remove the old oil-filter gasket (the rubber seal) before installing a new one — al-though NHTSA's own reports also cite cases where improperly installed (pinched or distorted) gaskets led to fires.

TOM: In either case, that allows the filter to drip oil onto the hot exhaust system while the car is running, when the exhaust is at its h test, and ... voilà, flaming Honda! RAY: So NHTSA closed its in-

vestigation. And Honda, for its part, agreed to warn all of its tech-

nicians about this potential prob-lem, and insist that they be extra careful when replacing oil filters

on CR-Vs. Problem solved, right TOM: Well, unfortunately, even after Honda sent out this dire warning, NHTSA continued to get complaints about flaming Hondas. Why? Well, perhaps some technicians — despite Honda's efforts — didn't get the

RAY: Perhaps there are lots of non-Honda technicians at gas stations and independent shops who iust

haven't heard about the broiled char-CR-Vs

TOM: perhaps the simple jobs like oil changes are left to kids who are working part time after school and are distracted by the latest

RAY: In any case, NHTSA has wisely reopened the investiga-tion. That makes sense to us. The real problem, in our opinion, is most likely either a flaw in the filter design, or that the hot exhaust is just a little too close to the oil filter on this car.

TOM: A true idiot-proof solu-tion (this happens to be my area expertise!) would require shielding the exhaust so the oil COULDN'T drip on it.

RAY: But if and until that hapens. Mel. vou have to be very care ful. You have to either discuss this with your mechanic before every oil change to make sure he remembers, or you have to dump the car and get something else.

TOM: If the dealer gave you a fair offer for it. I wouldn't blame you if you dump it. For most people, the prospect of your car going up in flames is not a worry

you need to add to your life.
RAY: We'll let you know what comes from NHTSA's reopened investigation. But meanwhile, those with 2003 and 2004 CR-Vs need to be sure that anyone changing the oil is fully aware of this problem, and how to prevent it. And it wouldn't be a bad idea to keep a bag of marshmallows in the cargo area, just in case, Mel. That way, you'll be prepared to make the best of a bad situation.

Got a question about cars? Write to Click and Clack in care of this newspa-per, or e-mail them by visiting the Car Talk section of cars.com on the World Wide Web. Distributed by King Features Syndicate Inc.

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Raytheon	.80	44	38.50	+.51	+28.2	Putn	am Funds	A: GlbEqty p	7.95	-
Rockwell Intl.	.66	20	44.41	+.48	+24.7	AIM	Investmen	ts A: ChartA p	12.43	01
Sequa Corp.		34	56.90	30	+16.1	AIM	Investmen	ts A: WeingA p	12.43	01
Texas Instruments	.10	24	23.97	78	-18.4	Merr	ill Lynch I:	BalCapt	27.47	-
Textron Inc.	1.30	31	70.80	+.11	+24.1	Scud	der Funds	S: Intl FdS	41.45	05

EXCHANGE RATES Military rates

C

Bahrain (Dinar) ...

Hong Kong (Dollar)7.7808
Hungary (Forint)188.70
Iceland (Krona)65.98
Israel (Shekel)4.4228
Japan (Yen)107.17
Kuwait (Dinar)
Norway (Krone)5.98
Philippines (Peso)
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)3.59
Singapore (Dollar)1.6599
South Korea (Won)1110.30
Switzerland (Franc)1.11
Thailand (Baht)40.65
Turkey (Lira)1,453,000.00
(Military exchange rates are those
available to customers at military bank- ing facilities in the country of issuance
for Japan, South Korea, Germany, the
Netherlands and the United Kingdom.
For nonlocal currency exchange rates
(i.e., purchasing British pounds in Germa-
nv), check with your local military bank-
ing facility. Commercial rates are inter-
bank rates provided for reference when
buying currency, All figures are foreign
currencies to one dollar, except for the
British pound, which is represented in
dollars-to-pound, and the euro, which is
dollars-to-euro.)

PRECIOUS METALS

INTEREST RATES

-.01 -.01 -.05 -.01 +.03 -.02 -.01

Prime rate	4.7
Discount rate	3.0
Federal funds market rate	1.937
3-month bill	2.0
30-year bond	4.9
Sources: The Associated Press, E	3ank c

ents and Sensibility Money tip of the day

Car rental deals

Regular travelers know that rental car pricing can be about as confounding as deciphering the federal tax code in 7-point type - a good deal in one market is an absolute abomination in another.

Vet with a bit of research effort and patience, this task can be simplified dramatically using your telephone and the Internet, according to TravelSmart, a newsletter published in Dobbs

Start at a major volume travel site, which shows a wide range of companies and results at a

Next, head to the individual company site to see what they're offering on price.

Also, if you don't have to get the car at an airport, see what the cost would be elsewhere in town - it's often lower.

The ties that bind

AR LITTLE ROCK — Gov. Mike Huckabee and his wife plan to convert their nuptial vows into a covenant marriage during a mass ceremony on Valentine's Day, giving a public push to the movement that seeks to strengthen marital ties and make it harder to get divorced.

it harder to get divorced.
The governor, a former Baptist
minister, said Monday he hopes
more than 1,000 other couples
will join him for the conversion
ceremony at a North Little Rock
arena. Arkansas has one of the
highest divorce rates in the coun-

try.

Covenant marriages, which also are an option in Louisiana and Arizona, usually require pre-wedding counseling and allow divorce only in cases of adultery, imprisonment, abandonment, abuse and after a substantial waiting period.

Influential pastor retires

LOS ANGELES — The Rev. Cecii "Chip" Murray, pastor for 27 years at one of the nation's most influential black churches, retired Sunday, delivering a final sermon before a stomping crowd of more than 1,000 worshippers.

Murray, 75, joined the First African Methodist Episcopal Church in 1977 and built the congregation from several hundred members to 17,000.

The Florida native's reputation for colorful language was on display as he preached on the theme of perseverance.

"When God has blessed you by waking you up this morning, how can you have a pity party?" Murray asked parishioners. "Remember, it's all right to sit on the pity pot — just remember to flush when you get through."

A cold year for Santa?

DENVER — Apparently there is no special clause for Santa — at least not for flu vaccines.

Nick Pallotto, 62, who plays Santa Claus in malls, turned up at a flu clinic in Colorado Springs and was denied a shot because he wasn't 65 or suffering from a chronic health problem.

"They asked me if I was 65.

and I said, 'No, but I am Santa," he said Saturday. For the past four years Pallot-

to has worked for Naturally Santa Inc., appearing as Santa Claus at malls in New Jersey, Denver and will work this year in Virginia. Pallotto said he gets a flu shot

every year because he has so many contacts with children. More than 10,000 kids were on his lap last year.

Marriage ban challenged

GA ATLANTA — Gay-rights supporters sued over Georgia's newly approved constitutional amendment banning same-sex marriage, saying Tuesday the wording did not make it clear that voters were also being asked to ban civil unions.

The plaintiffs — including two Democratic state legislators and a University of Georgia law professor — argued that the amendment, passed overwhelmingly on



Nov. 2, should be thrown out. On Monday, Republican members of the state House vowed to fight the expected lawsuit.

The plaintiffs had previously tried to block the vote on the same grounds—that it was misleading—but the state Supreme Court decided it could not intervene until a vote had been taken.

Cell door kills inmate

DRAPER — An inmate was killed accidentally when his head was crushed in a closing cell door, officials said Monday.

John J. Gardner, 27, was peering out his cell at Utah State Prison on Thursday when an officer about 150 feet away activated the mechanism that closed the cell doors on the block, the sheriff's department said.

The officer was standing behind a wall, where the door mechanism is located, and could not see that Gardner was not completely inside the cell, prison spokesman Jack Ford said.

Ford said he knew of no previous cases of an inmate getting his head caught in the door, though "we've had arms caught before."

Alarming ticket plan

PORTLAND — The City Council is considering an ordinance that would give police authority to ticket or tow vehicles whose alarms won't turn off.



Winter wonderland Sue Lamb of Parish, N.Y., walks down Spring Street in Mexico, N.Y., after a morning snowfall. The proposal before the council's public safety committee is to ticket cars when an alarm sounds for more than 10 minutes in an hour. The first offense would cost \$50, escalating to a fourth offense fine of \$300. The fines would be in addition to towing fees if the alarm fails to shut off.

"These things left unattended can just blare out into the night," said Councilor Peter O'Donnell. "I'm not in search of laws, but if there's something that should be regulated in terms of the nuisance they can cause other people, that's something we should work on."

Pricey pecans

IMM LAS CRUCES — Pecan growers in New Mexico are poised to reap the benefits of a volatile hurricane season that took its toll on farmers across the Southeast earlier this year.

With about 25,000 acres of trees, Dona Ana County alone typically produces about 80 percent of the state's pecan crop.

Farmer and pecan buyer Phillip Arnold said the quality of this year's crop will be excellent, in part, because of rain in the area for August.

Fewer pecans produced in the Southeast after hurricanes Ivan and Frances means a boost in the market price nationwide, said Dona Ana County extension agent John M. White.

"Unfortunately, it's one of those situations where somebody benefits when somebody loses," White said. "We're going to reap the benefits."

Snow no good for crops

SD YANKTON — With forecasters predicting snow this week in parts of the state, some South Dakota farmers have kicked their corn harvest into high gear.

"Snow is a worry," said Craig Anthony, a farmer and Yankton County Extension educator. "There have been times when farmers had to finish harvest in the spring. Then, they lose some yield from snow knocking down the corn and wildlife eating on it all winter."

The 2004 com harvest has been well behind schedule, mostly because of a cool, damp summer that hampered maturity. Some corn has been harvested for livestock feed, but many farmers held off from picking corn to let the grain dry in the fields rather than pay to dry it in a bin.

Prank gone wrong

MH MEREDITH — A man is facing criminal charges in the nearly year-old shooting of a teenager who police said was playing a prank by rapping on the house windows in an attempt to scare those inside.

Eric Buck, 21, Meredith, is facing one count of simple assault, a misdemeanor. Police say he shot a 16-year-old Center Harbor boy in the leg with a 22-caliber handgun on Nov. 28, 2003. Buck has pleaded not guilty and is out on \$10.000 bail.

Police originally declined to file charges against Buck, saying there was no criminal intent. The shooting took place during an incident characterized as a prank gone wrong.



Patriotic Welcoming Uncle Sam bends down to associate with the common people as he slaps hands with some kids along the Veteran's Day Parade route on U.S. 1 in Holly Hill, Fla.



Refreshing bike ride Megan Koenigsman, right, followed by her sister, Aubrey, react to the refreshing spray of water as they ride their bikes through a maze of sprinklers in Hays, Kan., on the campus of Fort Hays State University.

Tough cowboy

Paul Colley, of Millsap, Texas,

holds on to a longhorn named

Broken before a cattle drive in

downtown Dallas. Cowboys herded



South for the winter Ayoung bull moose crosses the road near the junction of Highway 59 and the turn-off for Ten Mille Lake in Otter Tail County, Minn. The transient moose was most likely trying to establish a new home range, according to Minnesota DNR Big Game Program Coordinator Lou Cornicelli. "They usually don't get that far south," he said.



Prepping for the holidays

Volunteer Larry Bitz cuts a
the frame as he prepares to replace the non-working strand with a new
one during the setup of the tumenl in the Light-Ly Middletown display at
Smith Park in Middletown, Ohio. The annual seasonal lighting display will
one the day after Thankszivina and run through New Year's Ex-



Enjoying the weather An unidentified waterskier enjoys unseasonably warm weather in the late afternoon sun on the Missouri River near Great Falls, Mont.

2 shots better than 1

WA SPOKANE — Chris Varallo thought it was quite amazing when he aced the third hole at Liberty Lake Golf Course. Then he went ahead and hit a second hole-in-one on the 11th hole of the same round.

Odds against that are about 67 million to 1, according to

Golf Digest.

"The first one was pretty amazing," said Varallo. "But after the second, everyone was in utter disbelief. Other people on the course heard the screaming and were coming over to see what had happened."

"Both of them were good-looking shots," said Dave Knutson, a member of his foursome who works with Varallo. "In fact, they were almost identical same trajectory with a little fade. And both of them were one hop and plunk!

"I'm very happy for him, but I'm dreading going back to work because I'm never going to hear the end of it," Knutson said.

Shirt off her back

JEFFERSON — When an election worker told Debbie Dupeire that her Bush-Cheney T-shirt was illegal at the polls, Dupeire didn't get mad. She got undressed.

Dupeire ripped off the T-shirt and voted Tuesday in a sports bra, too afraid to lose her place in a long line. Under state law, candidates' names cannot be displayed within 500 feet of a polling place.

"I really thought it was OK to wear my shirt. I didn't go there to cause trouble," said Debbie Dupeire, a 38-year-old makeup artist.

"I'd been in line wearing the shirt for 15 minutes, and no one said anything until I was about to vote," said Dupeire. "Had they told me before I signed the book, I would have gone out and turned my shirt wrong-side out."

Missing woman found

ND BISMARCK — A body found near a farm building in North Dakota was identified as that of a woman who disappeared along with her Alzheimer's-stricken husband nearly three months ago.

Authorities got a break in the search for Yvonne Olson, 69, and her 73-year-old husband Norman when a hunter discovered their car in the farm building, leading police to the body about a mile away.

The husband has not been found. Sheriff Eugene Molbert said the cause of Yvonne Olson's death is still under investigation; authorities have not ruled out foul play.

The couple disappeared in August after leaving behind cash, credit cards and thawing meat on the counter of their home in Hettinger.

Airline fights hunger

TX SAN ANTONIO — A Southwest Airlines jet was crossing Texas on Wednesday distributing 1 million pounds of food products to Texas food banks.

Dubbed "The Flight to Fight Hunger," the delivery cele-

brates the 100th anniversary of the San Antonio-based H-E-B grocery chain.

The donations were earmarked for 18 food banks affiliated with America's Second Harvest — The Nation's Food Bank Network.

The contributions will allow the Texas affiliates of America's Second Harvest to provide about 780,000 meals to needy families, said Jan Pruitt, president of the Texas Association of Food Banks and executive director of the North Texas Food Bank

Deadly home invasion

MI KENTWOOD — A man died after breaking into the home of a woman he had been stalking and setting off an explosive device that injured five officers, police said.

It was uncertain if the man died of injuries sustained in the blast or from shots fired by police. Most of the officers suffered headaches and other minor injuries from the blast.

Police said a standoff began after the woman called police to report that someone had broken into her home. The woman escaped, but

when officers entered, the man detonated an explosive device. Police Chief Richard Mattice said the woman had filed multiple restraining orders against

Prep school drowning

CONCORD — A 15-year-old St. Paul's School student drowned in 4 feet of water in the school's newly opened pool, police said. Clifford Nyquist of New Boston, a sophomore, was swimming when he sank beneath the utster's cur

ton, a sopnomore, was swimming when he sank beneath the water's surface. He was unconscious by the time lifeguards found him and died several hours later at Concord Hospital, police said. Douglas Dickson, dean of stu-

dents at St. Paul's, said it does not appear that Nyquist dived into the shallow water and struck his head on the pool floor. There were about a dozen people in the eight-lane, Olympic-sized pool at the time.

Nyquist's parents said their son was a strong swimmer and was in perfect health. They said two adult lifeguards were on duty.

The pool was opened less than a month ago as part of a new \$24 million athletic complex. Students who want to use it must have permission from the school and from their parents.

Masked robbers

GREAT FALLS — Police sought four men who broke into a house, robbing the occupants and leaving them bound in duct tane

Authorities received a call from a neighbor reporting that one of the victims was outside her house with her hands and mouths bound. The victims told police they

were awakened sometime overnight by the men in hoods and masks. Cash and property were stolen from the home, said Sgt. Richard Perez of the Fairfax County Police, declining to elaborate.



EUROPEAN FORECAST

Benelux: Mostly to partly cloudy skies. Highs in the mid 40s to lower 50s, Saturday lows in the 30s. Britain, Ireland: Mostly cloudy skies.

Britain, Ireland: Mostly cloudy skies. Highs in the mid 40s to lower 50s, Friday lows in the lower to mid 40s Creatia and Bosnia: Mostly cloudy for the mid 40s 50s, Saturday! lows in the mid 30s to mid 40s. France: Parlly cloudy skies. Highs in the mid 40s to upper 50s, Saturday lows in the lower 30s to lower 40s lower 40s

inland, and in the lower 50s along

the southern coast.

Northern Germany: Mostly cloudy

rainsnowers and isolated munder-storms. Highs in the upper 40s to lower 50s, Saturday lows in the upper 30s to mid 40s.

Southern Italy: Mostly cloudy skies with rainshowers. Highs in the mid 60s to upper 70s, Saturday lows in

60s to upper ros, Saturday rows ... the 50s. Kosovo: Mostly cloudy skies with rainshowers and fog. Highs in the 50s, Saturday lows in the mid 30s to

Sos, Saturday lows in the mid 30s to lower 40s.

Norway: Cloudy skies with rainshow-ers. Highs in the upper 40s to lower 50s, Saturday lows in the upper 20s to mid 30s.

to mid 30s.

Portugal, Spain: Partly cloudy skies with solated rainshowers. Highs in the mid to upper 50s in the northern portions with highs in the mid 60s to lower 70s along the southern coast, Saturday lows in the upper 30s to lower 50s. But the solar the solar things of the solar t

ers and isolated thunderstorms. Highs in the mid 60s to upper 70s Friday lows in the mid 50s to lowe

For current weather watches, warnings, and 5-day forecasts go to the USAFE Operational Weather Squadron home

SUN & MOON

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TODAY'S STATESIDE OUTLOOK

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City, Rain PCity, Snow PCity, Snow PCity, Snow PCity, Snow PCity, City City, City, City, City, City, City, Rain PCity, City, City, Rain PCity, City, City, Rain PCity, City, City, Rain PCity, City, C 34 25 22 32 32 7 25 2 42 3 37 42 6 36 33 37 5 7 2 20 1 27 29 34 6 4 4 21 25 50 943 378 444 355 60 945 456 436 453 44 948 435 345 7150 58 58 54 umbus,Ga. umbus,Ohio cord.N.H

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61/34

63/33

77/44

85/54

93/73

333

THE UNITED STATES TODAY

Scheduled to ETS or PCS

Check our Relocation Guide every Saturday to find Realtors at your new station.



Horoscope

The new moon in Scorpio poses a question about that ongoing personal habit you've been struggling with for so long. What if you

with for so long. What if you just accepted that extra turnmy roll or your obsession with that certain television show as part of who you are? If the prospect of forever living with the flaw scares you, now's the time to do something about it.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (November 12). This will be a year of first s—first marriages for some of you and first children or grand-children for others, particularly between the mornths of April and August. Some will travel to Europe for the first time. Others buy thing significant in your career, such as selling a first book. Lucky love signs are Cancer and Virgo.

ARIES (March 21-April 19).
You're making up your own definition for the word "commitment." If you've been seeing someone special for a while, you may be thinking about tying the knot. Watch out for a Sagittarius or Leo who wants to hog the snotlicht.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20).
Make a declaration of independence. Relationships that are on shaky ground need someone to make the big decision — why not you? If you happen to work from home, you can expect a nice bonus

to hit your mailbox real soon. **GEMINI (May 21-June 21).**Start your new exercise program.
You'll have plenty of energy and
motivation and no trouble finding a
personal trainer or workout partner.
Your creative life will especially

benefit from being half of a dynamic duo.

CANCER (June 22-July 22).
Relationships deepen as you get lucky in love now. You'll find new qualities to love and admire, and you can bet your counterpart adores the attention. Single crabs find the fish in the sea they were originally

trying to catch.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). A sudden career change could rattle you temporarily, but you'll be back on your feet in no time. Chances

are, your new situation will bring you more money and respect. The spotlight is on you — are you ready for your close-up?

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You get noticed on the job, and

You get noticed on the job, and people ask for you by name. Positive reviews and excellent Holiday Mathis

word of mouth put your services in demand, especially if you work in the arts. Remodeling or redecorating will be

cosmically inspired.

LIBRA (Sept.

23-Oct. 23). Your daily routine is constantly changing, which is good since you get bored easily. At work, you're still trying to get into a comfort-

able groove. Talking to an earthy Taurus, Virgo or Capricorn pal will help keep you grounded.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). There is no better time to launch a new project than right now. You are an absolute dynamo, and everything you touch turns to gold. Even that hottle who seemed so out of your league just a few days ago is putty in your hands.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Your living arrangements are due for a change, and some long-distance traveling may be involved. Some of you inquire into a foreign exchange program or teach overseas. Your love of learning must be sated!

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan.

19). You're reassessing your commitments, as cosmic energy brings with it a renewed sense of purpose. You've accepted new responsibilities and are wondering now if you should have. Don't doubt your abili-

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18).

Work gets really hectic as the year-end push starts to take effect. Watch your health. All this rushing around and eating on the run is bound to take a toll on you. You would be wise to check your choles-

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20).
Your deep and resounding need to help others and save the world is activated. With the universal gears shifting in your favor, you can combine your two loves and make a profit to be the same than the

Creators Syndicate

5

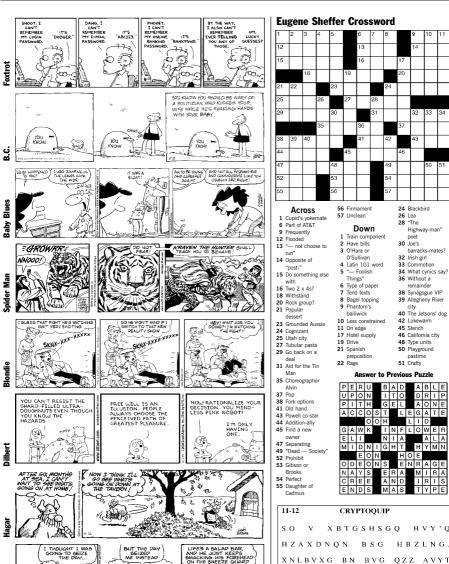
Peanuts







PAGE 21



JPM DAVIS 11-12

HVY'Q HZAXDNON BSG HBZLNG. XNLBVXG BN BVGQZZ AVYT

SY QBN Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF I GRABBED A CERTAIN PART OF MY SHOE, A PERSON COULD SAY I'M HOLDING MY TONGUE.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: Q equals T

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Mike Argirion

A GOOD WAY

TO BUY

COSMETICS

(Answers tomorrow)

Let me

hluch

It's expensive

but worth it

Boss' healing abilities lacking

Dear Abby: Last summer I was attacked by my boss' dog at work, leaving a nasty scar on my nose. My boss, claiming to be a "healing expert," advised me to avoid a trip to the doctor (as they don't put stitches in one's nose, he said) and to instead let him apply "healing oils" to my face Dear Abby He said the scar would be

gone within a month. I naively heeded his advice. During my remaining time at work, his wife (also my boss and the true owner of the dog) looked after me caringly, always wishing me well on my healing swearing genuine ly by her husband's tal-

ents as a healer Three months and nine days later, the scar is still there, and on a recent trip to the doctor he informed me that I should have gotten stitches. I now face expensive plastic surgery if I want to be rid of the scar. I am debating whether I should

take legal action.

- Downtrodden and Dog-Bitten Dear D&D: It should be as

plain as the scar on your nose to your employers that the husband's "healing powers" failed in your case. Put them on notice that you will be getting a referral to a board-certified plastic surgeon or dermatologist to repair the damage to your face, and

that you expect them or er to pay the bill. If they give you an argument, consult a lawyer. Do not feel guilty. You are the victim How the "healer" handles this letter will reveal wheth er he's truly a healer, or just a heel

Dear Abby: Two

months before our wedding, my fiance "Frank," and I called it off. We broke up completely for a while hoping to resolve some problems

before tying the knot. At the time, I had a maid of honor and five bridesmaids, all dearest, closest friends.

Since then we have all graduated, and now, a year after our

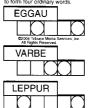
original wedding date. Frank and I are engaged again

A few of the girls who were supposed to be in the wedding party have drifted away, and as I plan my upcoming wedding, I'm wondering if I must re-invite every member of the original wedding party. I would prefer a smaller number of attendants, to make it a more special group. However, I'm afraid that if I do that, I'll irrevocably damage my friendship with some of these girls. I'd appreciate your advice.

Party-Pruning Bride in Ohio Dear Party-Pruner: As long as you explain to your girlfriends that you are scaling down the wedding in favor of something smaller and more simple, they should understand and not be offended. Some of them may even be relieved to be off the hook for the dresses, shoes and other expenses that go along with the "honor."

Letters for this column — with your name and phone number — should be addressed to Dear Abby, P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles CA 90069. Readers can write to Abby on the Internet at http://www.uexpress.com/dearabby Universal Press Syndicate

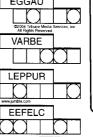
Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square. to form four ordinary words



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Yesterday's

ABOVE PUTTY DISMAY LIMBER Answer: What the defense did when the judge addressed the jury - RESTED



Fiancee too attached to roommate

Dear Annie: I'm 40 years old and the single father of a teenage daughter. I've recently become engaged to my high school sweetheart, "Mona." I very much look forward to building a life with my new family, but there's a problem: Mona has a roommate, and she wants the roomie to live with us after we're married

Mona is 39, and her roommate, "Jane," is 25. Mona never has been married or had children, and over the last few years she's come to regard Jane as a surrogate daughter. Jane is emotionally needy and has a hard time making decisions for herself, so she leans heavily on Mona to do her thinking for her Although Jane's a sweet and friendly girl and I like her, I'm concerned that the four of us sharing a house is going to be a source of conflict

We've discussed this, and Mona is very defensivel about not giving up Jane. She wants Jane to live with us for a year or so until she finishes graduate school, but I



have a feeling that she'd be with us for the long

 Conflicted in Kentucky Dear Kentucky: How long has Mona lived with Jane that the rela-

tionship is so interde-pendent? And, we hate to ask, but are certain about Mona's sexual orientation? This seems mighty strange to us.

If Jane is emotionally depen dent, Mona should help her be-come self-sufficient instead of enabling her to remain immature

and clingy. She can still keep in close touch, but a loving "parent" does not encourage an adult child to move in with Mom and Dad. Please hash this out with Mona before making commitments.

Dear Annie: My children are 11 and 12 years old. Every year around the holidays. I try to teach them about giving to those less fortunate. In previous years we have served Thanksgiving dinner

at homeless shelters, and taken clothing and food to a day care

center in the inner city. Well, (sigh), last year, we donat-ed our children's old coats through a local collection pro gram. I pulled the kids from school and took them along, but all they did was complain about missing school, and carry on about how much they didn't want to come. How do I help my children "get it"

— Trying to Help in Michigan Dear Michigan: Your kids are "getting it" more than you think Don't let their whining convince you to leave them at home. In fact, involve them more in the process of selecting the items to give away, and envisioning the children who will use them. Even when they complain, they are absorbing the lessons of generosi-ty and kindness, and when they are older, they undoubtedly will emulate your example.

Annie's Malibox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to annies-mailbox@comeast.net, or write to: Annie's Mailbox, c/o Creators Syndicate 5777 W. Centrury glvd., Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 90045.



"Mommy! I lost my coverage!"

CKEDIL



HE GAVE ME A DOLLAR AND SAID THANKS



"A cat killer? Is that the face of a cat killer



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CIB for infantrymen only

There has been a lot of questions about who does and doesn't deserve a Combat Infantryman Badge. There is no doubt in my mind that non-infantry military occupa tional specialties come under hostile fire daily, and I do think they should be awarded a ribbon or a badge of some sort to show that. But not the CIB.

The CIB is an infantry award - always has been and should always be. The Army should come up with something else to signify a soldier's role in active combat. The Marines have a Combat Action Ribbon there's an idea. If soldiers want the CIB. they should have gone infantry. This is a job that we volunteered to do, a job in which being in harm's way is our job, not one we are being forced to do because of the situation. The next thing they will want is our Blue Cord.

Only when soldiers do 14 weeks in sandhill and become 11B by choice, and then are engaged in hostile enemy fire, should they be awarded the CIB. When a soldier performs medical aid on another soldier while under fire, does that qualify him for the Combat Medical Badge? No, because

they are not medics. The CIB was made for infantrymen who have seen combat. This is not to say other MOSs don't, or that they have not performed the task of a 11B. This is where the need for another badge would be. So leave the CIB to the real grunts the way it was intended and start working the Army for something new.

Spc. David S. Crocket Logistical Support Area Anaconda, Iraa

Alternative to Army badge

So the Army is calling those non-grunts who are called to fight infantry battles, in an infantry role, shoulder to shoulder with infantrymen, "dragoons." That's delightfully appropriate, given that the linguistic sense of being "dragooned" is to be thrown into a role you never signed up for.

Do they deserve the equivalent of a Combat Infantryman Badge? Of course they do. Should the CIB's purview be expanded to include every trigger-puller in every gunfight? Surely not.

It can't be that hard to sort out. Two sim ple solutions present themselves immediately. The first is to award all the dragoons 11B as their secondary military occupational specialty as soon as they complete their train-up to infantry roles. That should enable them to receive the CIB. If not, then the system needs revamping, because guys who carry 11B as their SMOS and fight in infantry battles deserve that badge.

The second solution, which would probably take the Army at least 10 years to implement, is to create a parallel award, the Combat Dragoon's Badge. Perhaps it would resemble the CIB, but have a different background color on the dress badge since infantry owns the blue. It should also have a markedly different weapon represented than the vintage rifle on the CIB. I suggest a cavalry saber.

Tell us what you think

Stars and Stripes welcomes your comments on editorials and columns that are published in the newspaper and values letters on topics of importance in the lives of our readers. All letters must be signed, and must include the writer's address or base and telephone number. Please limit all letters to 300 words. We reserve the right to edit letters for length, taste and clarity.

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Of these two possibilities, the first is the cleanest, simplest and quickest to implement Staff Sgt. John Lewis Forward Operating Base Sykes, Iraq

Stripes is nonpartisan

I am writing in response to the letter "Watch liberal slant," (Nov. 7) in which the author states that he is considering a boycott of Stars and Stripes. This proposal is absolutely ludicrous, since the newspa per is provided free of charge to all troops who are deployed to a combat area. Thus his boycott will effectively bankrupt Stars and Stripes approximately five days after the sun goes supernova (though this estimate is of "limited precision"). Boycotting Stars and Stripes would be like boycotting the chow hall. It just isn't very practical.

Also, Stars and Stripes is one of the most nonpartisan newspapers I have ever read. Since I am an Independent, I am always skeptical of what I read in newspapers, and especially if it is government-sponsored. However, every time I saw an article in Stars and Stripes favoring a presidential candidate of one party, I always saw another one of equal length favoring the opposition. Thus I concluded that the paper makes it a point to be nonpartisan.

The letter "Watch liberal slant" shows the author's bias in choosing which news organization he prefers. He states that an article he read in Stars and Stripes "is the worst example of fair-and-balanced reporting." Apparently it is his contention that every paper should emulate the conservative-controlled Fox News Channel, Just because a paper doesn't slant conservative doesn't mean that it slants liberal.

I appreciate the nonpartisan work being done at Stars and Stripes. I also hope that the letter writer goes through with his boycott because maybe it would mean that I could get my own copy of Stars and Stripes each day instead of sharing it with the other eight people in my tent.

Sgt. Robert Leonhard Camp Cedar, Iraq

Pump and pay, then shop

I have lost count of the number of times I have been left standing at the Army and Air Force Exchange Service gas station pumps on Pulaski Barracks, wondering if the customer who owns the car in front of me will ever return.

The last instance was a memorable one Cars were backed up two deep on most pumps. I pulled into one lane where the owner of the car ahead of me was not there, so I figured he or she was already paying for the gas. I waited and waited. but no one came. I figured it was pointless to reverse out and join another line, so I just waited some more. Finally after about 10 minutes, the owner comes rolling out of the shoppette with shopping bags over her arm and proceeds to enter her vehicle.

I confronted this individual and requested that she please pay for her gas first, then pull forward to the parking lot if she was going shopping. That didn't go over too well as she vehemently retorted that there wasn't anything instructing her to and besides, she was only getting some milk, etc., and proceeded to divulge her shopping list to me. We exchanged a few more words with me ending the conversation by stating she was plain rude and inconsiderate of others

I went into the shoppette afterward and spoke with a manager about placing some signs at the pumps kindly requesting customers to pay for their gas before shop ping in the store. The manager replied that they had considered it, but there were some customers who preferred to get gas. leave their car at the pump, and go shop ping, so they decided not to post any signs. cannot believe that AAFES would take this stand, leaving the majority of its customers waiting and frustrated while a few rude ones shop.

Lance Box Ramstein Air Base, Germany

Have reason for new uniform

The Air Force is strongly considering a change to a new utility uniform. As I understand it, the reason is for ease of care and serviceability.

I remember a uniform that fit this criteria well. It was called the fatigue uniform. It could be worn tucked in or out, bloused or unbloused boots and could be worn with low quarters. I even had several short-sleeve uniforms. They were easy to iron and lasted well when cared for proper-

I am not against a change, but only hope that it is well thought out, unlike the multiple changes made when we first started wearing battle dress uniforms.

An additional note: My experience in joint operations is that we have a smattering of Air Force with a much larger contingent of Army. In this environment, will a uniform that is radically different from the other services be in the best interests of our enlisted force?

Thomas Kierstad Bagram, Afghanistan BY GARRY TRUDEAU

Doonesbury









OPINION

Excessive gloating is certainly off message

BY KATHLEEN PARKER Orlando (Fla) Sentinel

s President Bush gallops into a second term astride his favorite steed, "Mandate," it's hard to suppress the urge to holler: "Whoa Hoss

Confidence is good; conviction is fine; cocksure is even tolerable for a day or two But hubris, as most second-term presidents and a host of fallen kings will attest, is nearly always fatal. It offends the gods.

Bush's first foray into the winner's circle following the Nov. 2 election was something shy of humble and had even supporters squirming. At a press conference, he re-sponded to questions about what he intends to do by saying he was going to spend his political capital.

"I earned capital in the campaign," he said. "and now I intend to spend it. Well all right then.

As questioning continued, Bush was prickly with a couple of reporters who asked sevral questions within one, as they typically do. In the first instance, the question(s) went like this: "Mr President thank you As you look at your second term, how much is the war in Iraq going to cost? Do you intend to send more troops or bring troops home? And in the Middle East more broadly, do you agree with Tony Blair that revitalizing the Middle East peace process is the single most pressing political issue facing the world?"

Hardly a malevolent question. Don't we all want to know the answers to those questions? Bush answered: "Now that I've got the will of the people at my back, I'm going to start enforcing the one-question rule. That

Again, Whoa, Hoss. Bush's bristling probably was reflective of nearly four years of repressed anger toward an often-hostile press But the man who owns the most nukes, and in whose name young Americans are dying, can afford to be charitable. Especially to people whose unappreciated job it is to hang on his every syllable, including the extra ones.

Responding to another three-part ques

tion during the same press conference, this time about bringing people together, vis-à-vis a consensus candidate for the Supreme Court or a Democrat on the Cabinet. Bush responded: "Again, you violated the one-question rule right off the bat. Obvious

ly you didn't listen to the will of the people. Republicans have a right to celebrate their hard-won victory. And if George W. can leap for joy clicking his heels, he should.

In private. Remove the spurs first. In public, however, it would serve Bush well to remember that though 51 percent of voters may have issued a mandate. 48 percent or so begged to differ. And among those who cast their ballots in the red zone - as in red "Bush" states and regions - were a good many who voted without enthusiasm.

I'm not suggesting that Bush should go out of his way to make nice. Most of those who voted for Bush probably would applaud him if he sent the networks - among the lead dogs at press conferences who sit up front and always are called upon — to the back wall, never to be heard from again.

Given Bush's history with the current crop of reporters, four or five of whom insisted that he admit to mistakes during one recent press conference, it's easy to understand his urge to hurl a brushback pitch



their way - high and inside

Nevertheless, Bush has an opportunity to be recorded as a great president, a historic figure, if he doesn't squander what remains of American good will. Don't laugh. If he succeeds in Iraq and Afghanistan; if a Palestinian state evolves and Middle East peace gets a toehold; if Osama bin Laden and al-Oaida are extinguished: if no more terrorist attacks occur on U.S. soil; if he makes strides toward balancing the budget, growing the economy, saving Social Security and improving education - and, oh, by the way, rescu-

ing the continent of Africa from the AIDS pandemic - he'll go down as one of history's most brilliant, if accidental, presidents.

Obviously, those are formidable "ifs," but Bush would be easier to root for if he'd jump down off that high horse. People can forgive honest mistakes — failed presidential policies are not rare — but few find it easy to forgive a bad winner.

Without a crystal ball, we may not be able to predict the outcome of the next four years, but we know this much about human nature: Pride usually goeth before a fall. We can afford neither

Democrats dug in their heels, but voters didn't dig it

BY JAMES K. GLASSMAN

Scripps Howard

ast year, Georgia Sen. Zell Miller wrote a book called "A National Party No More," warning fellow Democrats that they had lost touch with America and - unless they returned to their pro-growth, strong-defense, values-oriented roots - they were doomed to permanent minority status

The Democrats didn't listen. Instead, they ostracized Miller, who became the keynote speaker at September's GOP convention

Miller turned out to be right. George W Bush won a stunning victory, and Republicans tightened their grip on the House and increased their margin in the Senate, But, incredibly, many Democrats still don't understand what happened. They blame their de feat - which they incorrectly see as narrow on John Kerry's inentitude as a candidate or the GOP's get-out-the-vote drive.

As someone who generally likes Republican policies. I'm faced with a dilemma Should I give the Democrats serious advice as Miller did - on how to get back into the political ballgame? Or should I rejoice at their denial and keep my mouth shut? I have searched my conscience and made my choice. So, here are 10 recommendations (with fingers, well, somewhat crossed) on how to save the Democratic Party

1. Nominate Hillary Rodham Clinton for president in 2008 A Northeastern senator will be a big advantage this time around as Americans tire of Southern hicks. Sure, her negatives are already 44 percent, but Hillary will ... get the support of The New York Times - the key to the White House.

2. Be honest about the so-called terrorist "threat." As Democratic leaders know, it doesn't exist. If it did, then why hasn't there been another attack on American soil in more than three years? The platform should advocate disbanding the Homeland Security Department and banishing those screeners who make us get to the airport so early.

3. Fund a new Michael Moore documentary blowing the lid off religion in America. Moore's "Fahrenheit 9/11," hailed by Senate Democratic leader Tom Daschle (whoops, soon-to-be former leader), nearly won the election for Kerry. The new movie will mock those kooky "born-agains," rendering them too embarrassed to show up at the polls

4. Involve Hollywood more. Kerry failed to make enough use of high-IQ stars such as Susan Sarandon, Tim Robbins and Ben Affleck. Whoopi Goldberg's brilliant speech at Kerry's Madison Square Garden fund-raiser galvanized America, but she dropped from

5. Two words: "Gun Control." Why didn't

Kerry emphasize gun control more instead of killing geese? Americans hate guns and understand that criminals do not shoot neople, guns do. Ms. Clinton should push for . a repeal of the Second Amendment, that antiquated guarantor of the so-called "right" to

6. Reinstate the draft. America's military has become far too professionalized. Democrats understand that the best way to fight a modern war is with citizen-soldiers. Also, do not besitate to criticize our troops, who have botched the job in Iraq.

7. Bring foreigners into the Cabinet. The best way to improve relations with our European allies is to ask them to join the next Democratic administration, Jacques Chirac for example, may soon retire as president of France. Why not ask him to become our next secretary of state? There's nothing in the Constitution that says he can't.

8. Make George Soros chairman of the Democratic Party. Sure, it will be difficult to replace a genius like Terry McAuliffe. But Soros is a billionaire with a common touch, a rare ability to connect with Middle America (probably because he's from Mitteleuropa). He cleverly compared Republicans to Nazis and judiciously spent \$24 million of his own money in efforts that came oh-so-close to beating Bush

9. "Vote or Die." Use P. Diddy's catchy slogan, which turned out hundreds of millions of young first-time voters in 2004, as the main theme of the 2008 campaign.

 Raise taxes across the board. Of course, fleece the rich. That's normal Democratic policy. But lower-income Americans will feel a stronger sense of community if they, too, contribute more to government. ...

Those are only 10 suggestions. I have more for Chairman Soros. He need only ask. Glassman is a fellow at the American Ente titute and host of TechCentralStation.com.

Mallard Fillmore



			AFR	TS Televisio	n Schedule			
	Updated sports listings are available on the first Scoreboard page in the sports section or AFIV's Web site at http://myafn.dodmedia.osd.mil/ FRIDM_NOTENER 12, 2004							
	(AFN-FAMILY)	(AFN-MOVIE)	(AFN-EUROPE)	(AFN-KOREA)	(AFN-NEWS)	(AFN-SPORTS)	(SPECTRUM)	(AFN-PACIFIC)
9:00	Stanley	Movie ★★% "The Linda Mc-	Dr. Phil	Jeopardy!	Nightline	Sports	30-Minute Meals	Jeopardy!
9:30	Sagwa-Siamese Cat	Cartney Story" (2000) George Segal, Elizabeth Mitchell.		Headline News	Nightly Business Report		Easy Entertaining-Chiarello	Headline News
10:00	Arthur (EI) Between the Lions "Rats"	(:42) Movie *** "Good	(9:46) Oprah Winfrey (:35) Guiding Light	ESPNews Advisory Block	Hardball With Chris Matthews		Decorating Cents The Look for Less	ESPNews Headline News
10:30 11:00	Sagwa-Siamese Cat	Will Hunting" (1997, Drama) Matt Damon, Robin Williams. A	(:35) Guiding Light	King of the Hill	Primetime Thursday		E! News Live	King of the Hill
11:30	Stanley	Matt Damon, Robin Williams. A	(:17) General Hospital	That '70s Show	Transcance Transcasy		The King of Queens	That '70s Show
12:00	Dora the Explorer	young Boston man must deal with his genius and emotions.	Headline News	The Apprentice	The O'Reilly Factor		That '70s Show	The Apprentice
12:30	The Wiggles	-	Judge Judy				Girlfriends	
13:00	Bob the Builder Dragon Tales (EI)	Movie ** "28 Days" (2000) Sandra Bullock, Viggo Mortensen.	Today Paul Reubens; Will Fer- rell: the Groundlings; It's Coio-	Survivor: Vanuatu, Islands of Fire (N)	Good Morning America		Charmed "Brain Drain"	Survivor: Vanuatu, Islands Fire (N)
13:30	Blue's Clues	A writer is forced to come to terms	Time.	Pacific Report	ł		Ally McBeal "Heat Wave"	Pacific Report
14:30	Barney & Friends (EI)	with her addictions.		The Tonight Show	i		·	The Tonight Show
15:00	Funniest Home Videos	(2:55) Movie * * "Kinder-	Teacher's Pet "Pet Project"		Headline News		Any Day Now "Life"	
15:30	Full House	garten Cop" (1990, Comedy) Arnold Schwarzenegner Pene-	What's New Scooby-Doo?	Late Show	Channel One		ER "If I Should Fall From	Late Show
16:00	Pokémon Yu-Gi-Oh! (Part 2 of 2)	Arnold Schwarzenegger, Pene- lope Ann Miller, Pamela Reed.	Ozzy & Drix (Part 2 of 2) The Brothers Garcia	Access Hollywood	The Early Show		ER "It I Should Hall From Grane"	Access Hollywood
16:30 17:00	Aaahh! Real Monsters	True Hollywood Story	Jeopardy!	Headline News	ł	Sports	Law & Order "Nullification"	Headline News
17:30	Rocket Power	inde nonymood only	Headline News	The Late Late Show	i	Ороль	Law & Order Teamination	The Late Late Show
18:00	SpongeBob SquarePants	Hollywood Backstories	ESPNews		FOX News		The Simpsons	
18:30	Rugrats Medieval fair.	Entertainment Tonight	AFN Evening News	Dennis Miller			Everybody Loves Raymond	Dennis Miller
19:00	ChalkZone	Movie * * "Dr. Dolittle"	King of the Hill	0	Primetime Thursday		Charmed "Used Karma"	0 11 WEST 17 2
19:30 20:00	The Weekenders (EI) Jimmy Neutron: Boy Genius	(1998, Comedy) Eddie Murphy, Ossie Davis, Oliver Platt.	That '70s Show The Apprentice	Countdown With Keith Olber- mann	FOX News		Boston Public "Chapter Thirty-	Countdown With Keith Olb
20:00	Drake & Josh 'Pilot'	(:38) Movie *** "Space	THE AppleHITCE	Entertainment Studios.com	I OX INSWS		Five'	Entertainment Studios.com
21:00	Lizzie McGuire	Cowboys" (2000, Adventure)	Survivor: Vanuatu, Islands of	Today Paul Reubens; Will Fer-	Headline News		Arctic Mission "Making of"	Today Paul Reubens; Will Fe
21:30	Sabrina, the Teenage Witch	Clint Eastwood, Tommy Lee Jones. NASA reunites four ag-	Fire (N)	rell; the Groundlings; It's Cojo- Time	Inside Politics		· ·	rell; the Groundlings; It's Coje Time
22:00	Switched! "Kristen and Ana"	ing flyboys for an urgent mis-	Headline News	Time.		The Hot List	Friends	Time.
22:30	Radio Free Roscoe	sion. Movie ** "Booty Call"	The Tonight Show	Zoboomafoo "Lids" (EI)	Headline News	The Hot List Around the Horn	Seinfeld "The Seven"	JoJo's Circus
23:00	The Cosby Show Home Improvement	(1997, Comedy) Jamie Foxx.	Late Show	Clifford the Big Red Dog (EI)	Lester Holt Live	Pardon the Interruption	The Daily Show Blind Date	Clifford the Big Red Dog (E
23:30	nome improvement	(,	Late Silow	SATURDAY, NOVEMBER	12 2004	ratuut tile iliterruption	Dilliu Date	Cilliona the big nea bog (c
00:00	Hey Arnold!	(11:00) Movie "Booty Call"	(11:30) Late Show	ChalkZone	Headline News	SportsCenter	Late Night	ChalkZone
00:30	Rocket Power	(:32) Movie *** * "The Grad-	Access Hollywood	Powerpuff Girls!	NBC Nightly News			The Weekenders (EI)
1:00	SpongeBob SquarePants	uaté" (1967) Dustin Hoffman. A woman seduces a young man	Sports	Jimmy Neutron: Boy Genius	ABC World News Tonight		Charmed "Used Karma"	Jimmy Neutron: Boy Geniu
1:30	Rugrats "New Kid in Town"	who falls for her daughter.		Drake & Josh "Pilot"	CBS Evening News	NFL Live		Drake & Josh "Pilot"
2:00	ChalkZone The Weekenders (EI)	Coming Attractions		Sports	Countdown With Keith Olber- mann	Sports	Boston Public "Chapter Thirty- Five"	Sports
2:30 3:00	Jimmy Neutron: Boy Genius	Movie ** "Dr. Dolittle"	ł		Hannity & Colmes		Arctic Mission "Making of"	+
3:30	Drake & Josh 'Pilot'	(1998, Cornedy) Eddie Murphy,			,			
4:00	Lizzie McGuire	Ossie Davis, Oliver Platt.			The NewsHour With Jim		Friends	
4:30	Sabrina, the Teenage Witch	(:38) Movie ** * "Space Cowboys" (2000, Adventure)			Lehrer		Seinfeld "The Caddy"	
5:00	Sesame Street (EI)	Clint Eastwood, Tommy Lee	Headline News ESPNews	WWE Raw	Lou Dobbs Tonight		Breathingspace Yoga Caribbean Workout	WWE Raw
5:30 6:00	Barney & Friends (EI)	Jones. NASA reunites four ag- ing flyboys for an urgent mis-	Headline News	Headline News	Larry King Live		Body Shaping	Headline News
6:30	Blue's Clues "Blue's Play"	sion.	Headline News	Navy/Marine Corps News	1		Every Woman	Navy/Marine Corps News
7:00	Planet's Funniest Animals	Movie ★★ "Dr. Quinn, Medicine	JoJo's Circus	My Life as a Teenage Robot	NewsNight With Aaron Brown	Inside the NBA	Beautiful Homes-Estates	Lizzie McGuire
7:30	Amazing Animal Videos	Woman: The Movie" (1999) Jane Seymour, Joe Lando.	Clifford the Big Red Dog (EI)	Operation Junkyard (EI)	OFT HIS LIE NAME	Air Force Football Sports Center	Curb Appeal	Switched! "Kristen and Ana"
8:00 8:30	Lilo & Stitch "Splodyhead" Teamo Supremo (EI)	(:43) Movie * "Speed 2:	ChalkZone The Weekenders (EI)	Radio Free Roscoe American Adventurer	BET Nightly News Tavis Smilev	SportsCenter	Landscapers' Challenge Weekend Warriors	Radio Free Roscoe American Adventurer
9:00	Jackie Chan Adventures	Cruise Control" (1997 Sus-	Jimmy Neutron: Boy Genius	Access Hollywood	Nightline		Clean House	Access Hollywood
9:30	Kim Possible (EI)	pense) Sandra Bullock, Jason Patric, A madman seizes the	Drake & Josh 'Pilot'	,,,	Nightly Business Report	NFL Matchup		,
10:00	Teen Titans "Car Trouble"	helm of a luxurious ocean liner.	Lizzie McGuire	Headline News	Hardball With Chris Matthews	Baseball Tonight	BBQ With Bobby Flay	Headline News
10:30	Teenage Mutant Ninja Turt.	1	Switched! "Kristen and Ana"	ESPNews			\$40-a-Day	ESPNews
11:00	Dragonball GT X-Men: Evolution	Movie ** "Encino Man" (1992, Comedy) Sean Astin,	Focus on the Force American Adventurer	George Lopez Half & Half	Dateline NBC		Fashion Police It's Good to Be	According to Jim Half & Half
11:30 12:00	X-Men: Evolution Teen Kids News (EI)	Pauly Shore, Brendan Fraser.	American Adventurer Access Hollywood	Half & Half CSI: Miami "Witness to Murder"	The O'Reilly Factor	SportsCenter	It's Good to Be 101 Most Unforgettable SNL	CSI: Miami 'Witness to Murri
12:30	Tutenstein (EI)	(:41) Movie *** "Lucas"	1	main minos is muidel			Moments	
13:00	Endurance "Face to Face"	(1986) Corey Haim, Kerri Green. A boy with an advanced	WWE Raw	Law & Order: Special Victims	CNN Saturday Morning	Sports	Intimate Portrait "Nancy McK-	Law & Order: Special Victin
13:30	Scout's Safari (EI)	Green. A boy with an advanced IQ struggles with puppy love.		Unit "Hate"			eon"	Unit "Hate"
14:00	Animal Kidding	Movie ** "Rear Window"	According to Jim Half & Half	Headline News Saturday Night Live	20/20		Antiques Roadshow "Hot Springs, Arkansas" (Part 2 of 3)	Headline News Saturday Night Live
14:30	Most Extreme: Strength	(1998, Drama) Christopher	CSI: Miami "Witness to Murder"	Saturday Night Live	Today		Star Trek: Voyager "State of	Saturday Night Live
15:00 15:30	moor Examine, Sumingal	Reeve, Daryl Hannah.	OG. MINISTER WATERS IN MUTUE!		l,	NFL Live	Flux"	
16:00	Hercules: The Legendary Jour-	(:12) Movie *x "Blue Streak"	Law & Order: Special Victims	Kickin' It Latest in music and	1	SportsCenter	Ripley's Believe It or Not	Kickin' It Latest in music and
16:30	neys "The Vanishing Dead"	(1999, Comedy) Martin	Unit "Hate"	trends.		College Gameday	1	trends.
17:00	Aaahh! Real Monsters	Lawrence. A thief poses as a cop to retrieve a hidden diamond.	Headline News	The Entertainers	Wall Street Journal Report		Fear Factor	The Entertainers
17:30	Rocket Power		Navy/Marine Corps News	Canada	America's Black Forum News From CNN	Cellege Feetbell Tram : 2	What Nat to Wear (Day 112)	Canada
18:00	SpongeBob SquarePants Rugrats	Hollywood Shootout Entertainment Tonight	Sports	Sports	News From CNN	College Football Teams to Be Announced, (Live)	What Not to Wear "Donia" Do- nia gets fashion advice.	Sports
18:30 19:00	Movie *** Beauty and	Movie * "Exit Wounds"	ł		Dateline NBC		Trading Spaces	1
19:30	the Beast" (1991) Voices of	(2001, Action) Steven Seagal, DMX. Isaiah Washington.			DOMESTIC HOO		Indusing Options	
20:00	Paige O'Hara, Robby Benson.	,			Headline News		Crossing Jordan "He Said,	1
20:30	Movie "Horse Sense" (1999, Drama) Joey Lawrence, An-	(:43) Movie *** "The Rook- ie" (2002, Drama) Dennis	L		Air Force TV News		She Said"	
21:00	Drama) Joey Lawrence, An- drew Lawrence, Susan Walters.	Quaid, Rachel Griffiths. A high-	Sports	Sports	20/20	College Football Teams to Be Announced, (Live)	1-800-Missing "Thin Air"	Sports
21:30	My So-Called Life "Self-Es-	school baseball coach tries out for the major league.	l		FOX News		Friends	1
22:00								
22:00	teem"						Seinfeld "The Seven"	
22:00 22:30 23:00	teem' The Simpsons The Simpsons	Movie *** "The Nightmare Before Christmas" (1993)			FOX News		Seinfeld "The Seven" The Real World Punk'd	



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FACES

Activist artists buoyed despite Bush win

BY HILLEL ITALIE The Associated Press

NEW YORK — They urged young people to "Vote for Change" and "Rock the Vote." They gave concerts and readings in "battleground" states. They made movies meant to turn Republicans into Democrats and the president into both a monster and a laughingstock.

Rarely have so many artists committed themselves to the defeat of a politician as Bruce Springsteen. Michael Moore and many others did in opposing George W. Bush. Now, with the president's re-election those artists find themselves asking whether they made a dif-

44 I don't think

there's anu

downside to

getting people

involved in the

Stephen Elliott

Operation Ohio organizer

ference and whether they would do it again. "To me it was a huge

success just for us to get young people into it," says hip-hop mogul Sean "P. Diddy" Combs, who organized an all-star, get-out-the-vote cam-paign known as "Vote or

Combs' voter drive, Springsteen's "Vote for Change" tour and Moore's anti-Bush documentary, "Fahrenheit 9/11," were the most visible signs of art-

ists' involvement. Countless others joined in less public ways, helping to register voters and get them to the polls. Errol Morris. the Academy Award-winning documentary maker, filmed a series of anti-Bush TV commercials featuring Republicans unhanpy with the war in Iraq; he spent Election Day in Wisconsin urging Democrats to

"You do certain things regardless of whether you know it's going to help," Mor-ris said. "It might help, and that's enough of a reason for doing it. By doing nothing, you're definitely not going to help.

Artists may well have made a difference. According to CIRCLE (the Center for Information & Research on Civic Learning & Engagement), a leading research organization, 4.6 million more young people cast their votes in 2004 than in 2000 and the turnout rate for 18-to-29-year-olds was 51.6 percent, compared with 47.9 percent in 1992, considered the previous high point for youth involvement. Exit polls conducted for The Associated Press and television networks by Edison Media Research/Mitofsky International gave Democrat John Kerry a 54-45 advantage among young people, compared to a 48-46 edge for Al Gore over Bush in 2000.

"I think there were probably a lot of reasons for bringing out the youth vote, but all the media buzz and the campaigns like 'Vote for Change' certainly helped create excitement and general enthusiasm " Carrie Donovan, CIRCLE's youth director, said Thursday. "I know my own sister

voted for the first time and when I asked her why, she said it was partly because of all the the Vote' ads on MTV.

artist-activists Many have posted messages of encouragement on their Web sites. Musician Moby urged Bush opponents not to "sink into depression electoral process. 77 over the democratically expressed will of the majority of voting Ameri-cans." Moore, perhaps the most relentless, resource-

ful and commercially successful of the anti-Bush artists, has replaced a high-tech voter guide and gleeful messages on his Web site with a grainy photo montage of Bush and a brief state-ment below: "We're not going away. Join our mailing list."

American authors have a long history of being more detached from politics than their peers in other countries, but many worked against Bush during the fall. Stephen Elliott organized "Operation Ohio," which featured readings and phone calls to first-time voters by Michael Chabon, Jonathan Lethem and many others.

"I don't think there's any downside to getting people involved in the electoral process," says Elliott, whose books include the novel "Happy Baby" and the nonfiction Looking Forward to It: Or, How Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the American Political Process." "My candidate didn't win - I'm not too

excited about that - but 'Operation Ohio' made the world a better place by getting people to vote." Lethem, author of "Motherless Brook-

"The Fortress of Solitude" and other novels, said his election work was a "kind of intervention" against the "radical" politics of Bush and that given another chance he would have done the same. Meanwhile, Morris said the 2004 elec-

tion reminded him of making "The Thin Blue Line," his acclaimed documentary about a wrongfully imprisoned man, Randall Dale Adams "I spent several years trying to get that

man out of prison. I worried about him and I thought, 'I am going to have keep thinking about this unless it changes.' I it to end," says Morris, whose film did help free Adams.

'I saw the election as a similar situation. One of the reasons I wanted Kerry to win is that I wanted the luxury of not having to think about politics. And now that's not going to happen.'



Actor's Africa tour geared to fight AIDS

Brad Pitt spent four days in Ethiopia to learn more about AIDS in Africa as part of a fund-raising campaign to combat the disease on the world's poorest conti-

nent. The trip was organized by DATA, a Washington-based lobby group co-founded by rock star Bono that

campaigns on Third World trade. debt and HIV/AIDS. Pitt began his first visit to Ethiopia last Friday and left late Monday night. While in Ethiopia, Pitt visited local

projects fighting the spread of HIV, the virus that causes AIDS. The 40-year-old actor also met with eight top Ethiopian singers who have collaborated on songs to

educate people about HIV and to raise money for AIDS programs.

Celebrities unite for cancer research

A light rain couldn't dampen spirits as dozens of Hollywood celebrities attended the second annual Louis Vuitton United Cancer Front gala, hosted by Sarah Jessica Parker, Dustin Hoffman and Jamie Foxx.

Underwritten by fashion designer Louis Vuitton, all proceeds from Monday night's event will go to UCF, the brainchild of Lilly Tartikoff, whose husband, TV executive



Serena Williams, Jaime Foxx and Venus William

Brandon Tartikoff, died in 1997 of Hodgkin's disease. Tennis star Serena Williams, her sister Venus Williams, singer Jewel, and actresses Kristin Davis, Lauren Graham and Kate Bosworth were among those in attendance.

Spanish filmmaker revels in new film

Pedro Almodovar has been down the red carpet before, but the director said it felt like the



first time at the Hollywood premiere of his new film "Bad Education" "For me, premieres are like when

you fall in love," Almodovar explained, speaking in Spanish. "It's like the first time in that it's going to last forever. So, in that sense, this premiere is like the first time I've premiered the movie, and that's the way I'm celebrating it.

The movie has been shown at film festivals in Moscow, Toronto, New

Franco-era religious schooling and sexual abuse on the "Bad Education" opens in Los Angeles and New York City on Nov. 19 Shaver, Clark honored as songwriters

'Bad Education" teams Gael Garcia Bernal and Fele

Martinez in an often gritty examination on the effect of

Billy Joe Shaver, Guy Clark, Dennis Morgan and Freddie Hart have been inducted into the Nashville Songwriter Hall of Fame



York and Telluride, Colo.

lives of two longtime friends.

Tom T Hall gave Shaver's induction speech Sunday, and Kris Kristof-ferson joined Joe Ely to perform some of Shaver's classics, which include "Good Christian Soldier," "Old Five and Dimers Like Me," "Honky Tonk Heroes" and "I'm Just an Old Chunk of Coal."

Shaver was moved to tears by the nerformance

"Boy, it's been a rough road, but there've been a lot of happy times,

Lyle Lovett and Verlon Thompson

paid tribute to Clark by playing selec-tions from his catalog, which includes "L.A. Freeway." "Desperadoes Waiting for a Train" and "Homegrown Tomatnes?

Stories and photos from The Associated Press

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and shots \$ 450 cal 06151-9518395 Registered Persian kittens whasic shots and papers \$ 400

Apartment Unfurn 856

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Santana wins AL Cy Young

Twins left-hander unanimous choice

BY RONALD BLUM

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Johan Santana of the Minnesota Twins was a unanimous pick for the American League Cy Young Award on Thursday, rewarded for a stellar second half that helped his team win its third straight division title.

Santana went 20-6 and led the AL with a 2.61 ERA and 265 strikeouts, going 13-0 with a 1.21 ERA in 15 starts after the All-Star break.

He received all 28 first-place votes from the Baseball Writers' Association of America, becoming the first unanimous Cy Young winner since Arizona's Randy Johnson two years ago and the first in the AL since Boston's



Minnesota Twins pitcher Johan Santana went 20-6 and led the American League with a 2.61 ERA and 265 strikeouts, going 13-0 with a 1.21 ERA in 15 starts after the All-Star break.

Pedro Martinez in 2000. He is the 18th unanimous winner overall, the seventh in the AL.

Curt Schilling, 21-6 with a 3.26 EAR in his first season with the Red Sox, received 27 second-place votes and one third for 82 points. Voting was conducted before the start of the postseason, when Schilling pitched despite an injured ankle and helped Boston win the World Series for the first time since 1918.

Schilling, who led the major leagues in wins, has never won a Cy Young Award. He was runner-up for the third time, tying Johnson, a five-time winner, and 1957 winner Warren Spahn for the most second-place finishes.

Mariano Rivera of the New York Yankees, who led the major leagues with a career-high 53 saves, received the other second-place vote and 24 thirds for 27 points.

Santana, the first Venezuelan to win the award, had a breakout season after going 12-3 for the Twins in 2003. He is eligible for free agency after the 2006 season.

Santana lost in salary arbitration last February and earned \$1.6 million salary with no bonuses. Schilling, who had a \$12 million salary, earned a \$400,000 bonus for finishing second.

Houston's Roger Clemens won the NL honor Tuesday, his record seventh Cy Young Award.

D.C. mayor endorses private funds to build Expos' proposed ballpark

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Washington Mayor Anthony A. Williams agreed Wednesday to consider a plan by District of City Council Chair Linda W. Cropp that calls for the city to consider private financing for the proposed ballpark for the Expos.

"By all means we want to do that, and I certainly fully endorse it," Williams said, adding that any deal must accommodate the city's agreement with the Expos, which contains a Dec. 31 for financing to become law.

Cropp postponed Tuesday's scheduled vote on the mayor's ballpark plan for two weeks.

"Let's just see what happens," she said. "I think it can be achieved," she said, adding she had a "responsibility to do everything we can to reduce the cost" of the \$435 million project.

Cropp claims one financier has approached her offering \$350 million, but she declined to identify the investor.

City officials said a private investor would not be able to profit from the revenue promised to the Expos, such as naming rights for the stadium or concession income. Rather, Cropp said the incentive would be profits through a "tax advantage."

"It can be win-win," D.C. Sports and Entertainment Commission chairman Mark Touhey said. "I think there are much better proposals that we're going to be seeing."

The votes of seven of 13 council



members are needed for approval.

Stottlemyre says he will return for 2005, then retire NEW YORK — Mel Stottlemyre will return as pitching coach of the New York Yankees

next year, then retire after the 2005 season. Stottlemyre has been pitching coach since manager Joe Torre was hired before the 1996 season.

"I've been talking about retirement for about three years," Stottlemyre said Wednesday. "Each year I've changed my mind at the end of the season. I'll be 64 years old at this time at the end of next year, and it's probably time."

Joe Girardi will replace Willie
Randolph as bench coach.

Girardi who caught for the

Girardi, who caught for the Yankees from 1996-99, retired when he was cut by New York at the end of spring training and was a broadcaster for the YES network during the season.

Randolph was hired last week as manager of the New York Mets.

Pirates re-sign Mesa, Torres

PITTSBURGH — The Pittsburgh Pirates brought back ther two top relievers Thursday, agreeing with closer Jose Mesa on a \$2.5 million, one-year contract and with setup man Salomon Torres on a two-year deal that avoided salary arbitration. Mesa, who converted 43 of 48 saves chances during his 2004 comeback season, will make \$2 million next year, with Pittsburgh getting a \$4 million option for 2006 that includes a \$500,000 buy-out. Mesa had a \$800,000 base sal-ary last season and earned \$465,000 in performance bonuses after signing with Pittsburgh as a minor lesque free agent!

The right-handed Mesa was let go by the Phillies after losing the closer's job in 2003, when he went 5-7 with a 6.52 ERA and converted 24 of 28 save opportunities.

Torres, 32, made \$750,000 while going 7-7 with a 2.64 ERA in a team-high 84 appearances last season — the most by a Pirates reliever since Kent Tekulve pitched in 85 games in 1982.

Matsuzaka leads Japan over major league stars

SAPPORO, Japan — Japanese pitcher Daisuke Matsuzaka picked the right spot to showcase his talent.

He pitched a complete game Thursday in leading the Japanese All-Stars past the touring major league stars 5-1 in Game 6 of an eight-game exhibition series. The major leaguers lead the series 4-2.

The 24-year-old right-hander has played six years in Japan's professional league and must wait three more before becoming a free agent.

Matsuzaka gave up one run on five hits while striking out six for the win.

SCOREBOARD

AFN-TV & Radio Friday

AFN-Sports, 9 a.m.—NBA: Minnesota at louston (dld). AFN-Sports, 12:30 p.m.—Rodeo: Pro Bull Riding Tour (dld). Riding Tour (dld).

AFN-Sports, 3 p.m.—College football: Flori-da St. at North Carolina St. (dld).

Saturday

AFN-Sports, 2 a.m. - NBA: Miami at San An-AFN-Pacific, 2 a.m.—College football: pountern mississippi at Mempnis. AFN-Atlantic, 2 a.m.—Auto racing: Carts-nan Trucks Darlington 200. AFN-Sports, 4:30 a.m.—College football: ławaii at Fresno St. AFN-Sports, 9 a.m.—Rodeo: Pro Bull Riding our (dld). our (dld). **AFN-Sports, 12:30 p.m.**—NBA: Indiana at hiladelphia (dld). Philadelphia (dld).

AFN-Sports, 3:30 p.m.—College football:
Air Force Football with Fisher De Berry (dld).

AFN-Atlantic, 6 p.m.—College football:
Northwestern at Michigan.

AFN-Sports, 6 p.m.—College football: Iowa at Mionesot.

at Minnésota.
AFN-Racific, AFN-Radio, 6 p.m.—College obtails Boston College at West Virginia.
AFN-Atlantic, 9:30 p.m.—College football: exas Tech at Texas A&M.
Lexas Texas Texas A&M.
Lexas Texas A&M.
Lexas Texas A&M.
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Lexas Texas Texas A&M.
Lexas Texas All times Central European Time; dld indi-cates delayed broadcast. All listings are sub-ject to change. Some radio broadcasts not available in all areas. Visit www.myafn.net

Pro football



Baltimore at N. Seattle at St. Li Seattle at St. Louis Tampa Bay at Atlanta Detroit at Jacksonville Kansas City at New Orlea Pittsburgh at Cleveland Cincinnati at Washington N.Y. Glants at Arizona Minnesota at Green Ray Minnesota at Green Carolina at San Fran Buffalo at New England Open: Miami, Denver, Oakland, San Diego Monday, Nov. 15 Philadelphia at Dallas

NFL injury report

NEW YORK (AP) — The National Football League injury report, as provided by the league:

CAROLINA PANTHERS (1-7) AT SAN FRAN-CISCO 49ERS (1-7) — Panthers: OUESTION-CISCO 49ERS (1-7) — Panthiers: QUESTION-RABLE: RB Stephen Davis (knee); CB Artrell Hawkins (hamstring); RB Brad Hoover (back); S Mike Minter (knee); DT Kindal Moorehead (shoulder); LB Dan Morgan (con-cussion). PROBABLE: CB Chris Gamble (knee). 49ers: OUT: CB Ahmed Plummer (neck); LB Ray Wells (ankle), DOUBTFUL: LB Richard Seigler (foot), QUESTIONABLE: C Jer-amy, Nawharry (knog/back); CB Shawntag emy Newberry (knee/back); CB Shawing Spencer (ankle); DE Andrew Williams (Shin) DBORARLE: RB Fred Beasley (ankle); DT Bry

ant Young (neck).

CHICAGO BEARS (3-5) AT TENNESSEE THANS (3-5) — Bears: OUT: LB Marcus Reese (foot): CB Charles Tillman (knee). DOUBT-FUL: S Bobby Gray (groin). QUESTIONABLE: RB Thomas Jones (toé). PROBABLE: DT Alfonso Boone (back); G Ruben Brown (knee); DT Tommie Harris (iii): OR Crain Krenzel (left side); C Olin Kreutz (elbow); CB Todd McMil-lon (back); DE Adewale Ogunleye (calf); G ion (back); DE Adewale Ogunleye (calf); 6 Rex Tucker (elbow); LB Brian Urlacher (ham-string). Titans: OUT: WR Tyrone Callico (nee); S Lance Schulters (foot). QUESTION-ABLE: RB Chris Brown (toe); LB Rocky Cal-mus (back); DE Carlos Hall (knee); P Craig of the Charles (back). The Fron Kinner (calf); QB Steve. AcNair (Sternum); T Fred Miller (ankle).

(ankle).

CINCINNATI BENGALS (3-5) AT WASHING-TON REDSKINS (3-5) — Bengals: QUESTION-ABLE: T Willie Anderson (knee); CB Rashad Rauman (Achilles); QB Jon Kitna (1001); LB CONCINUATION PROPERTY OF THE WASHINGTON TO REPORT OF THE REPORT OF THE REPORT OF THE PROPERTY OF THE REPORT OF THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPERTY OF THE REPORT OF THE PROPERTY OF T

Jared Boyles Groin, WR Az-Zellt Habitu.

OLT: GB Bryn Lethvich (Inveil: DOUBTILL:
1E Glorige Wrightser (Isako). QUESTION:
1E G

(thigh).

KANSAS CITY CHIEFS (3-5) AT NEW ORLEANS SAINTS (3-5) — Chiefs OUT: LB Shawn
Barber (knee): TE Kris Wilson (ankl).

DOUBTFUL: RB Priest Holmes (knee). OUESTIONABLE: LB Monty Beise (call): RB Derrick
Blaylock (thigh): TE Jason Dunn (back): De
Vornite Holliday (abdomen): CB Dexter McVornite Holliday (abdomen): CB Dexter Mcvomine moliliday (abdomen); CB Dexter Mc-Cleon (hamstring); DT Junior Slavii (ankle). PROBABLE: DT John Browning (shoulder); G Will Shields (hip); T John Welbourn (knee). Saints: QUESTIONABLE: CB Ashley Ambrose TE Ernie Conw

(knee): It Erripe Convent (Annex): Refer BAY Milliams (neck) 4-9 — Vikings: DOUBTFUL VIR BB CONTROL (AND THE BER C Lenon (knee): S 'Darren Sharper (Knee): PROBABLE: G Marco Rivera (ankle): NEW YORK GIANTS (5-3) AT ARIZONA CAR-DINALS (3-5) — Giants: OUT: S Jack Brewer (lower leg): DE Michael Strahan (pectoral): DE Keith Washington (knee): OUESTION-ABLE: RB Michael Cloud (back): LB Barrett Charles (Seven O'Mars) (len in. ABLE: RB Michael Cloud (back); LB Barrett Green (knee/ankle); C Shaun O'Hara (leg in-fection); T Luke Petitgout (concussion); TE Marcellus Rivers (back), Cardinals; PROBA-

ompson (knee).

PITTSBURGH STEELERS (7-1) AT CLEVELAND BROWNS (3-5) — Steelers: OUT: CB Chad Scott (quadricep). DOUBTFUL: RB Ver-ron Haynes (toe). QUESTIONABLE: RB Dan Krelder (hip flexor); RB Duce Staley (ham-string). PROBABLE: RB Jerome Bettis (calf); string). PROBABLE: RB Jerome Bettis (calt); C Jeff Hartings (knee); DE Travis Kirschke (back); WR Lee Mays (hamstring). **Browns:** DOUBTFUL: WR Andre' Davis (toe); WR Andre King (ankle). PROBABLE: P Derrick

Andre King (ankle). PROBABLE: P Derrico.

SEATH E-SHAHWES (6-3) AT ST. LOUIS

BAMS (6-4) — Seahawke: POURTIFUE DE

FORTH WISTOM (nobes). OUSSTONAGE: WR

Chestly: TE Itula "Mill (argin); DE Chike

Chestly: TE Itula "Mill (argin); DE Chike

Chestly: TE Itula "Mill (argin); DE Chike

Lamin (nnee); WR Darrell Jackson (annie);

Hamin (nnee); WR Darrell Jackson (annie);

Hamin (nnee); WR Darrell Jackson (annie);

PROBABLE: OB Jackson (annie);

PROBABLE: OB Jackson (annie);

Tod Medride (hamstring); PROBABLE: G Borton

eeth); T Scott Tercero (shoulder).
TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS (3-5) AT ATLAN-TAM/PA BAY BUCCANEERS (3-5) AT ATLAN-TA FALCONS (6-2) — Buccaneers: OUT: RB Mike Alstott (knee). QUESTIONABLE: WR Joey Gallows (groin); K Martin Gramatica Joey Callows (groin); K Martin Gramatica OB Chris Simms (left shoulder). Falcons: QUESTIONABLE: TE Eric Beverly (shoulder): WR Brian Finneran (pectoral). PRQBABLE: CB Aaron Beasley (1001); DT Rod Coleman

Aaron Bessley (1601): DT Rod Colleman (1602): Sort Hall (004): EW BUSLAND PA-HOLL (004): EW BUSLAND PA-TRIOTS (71) — Bills OUT DE Constantin Riz-mann (1004): DOUBTFUL: WR JOSH Reed (cnee): S Coy, Wire (abdomen), QUESTIONA Lamas (neek). Perfortes OUT: CST 1/2 aw (foot): CST I/Yone Poole (knee). QUESTIONA BLE: WR JOSH (1604): DE STONA BLE: WR JOSH (1604): DE STONA

Monday
PHILADELPHIA EAGLES (7-1) AT DALLAS
COWBOYS (3-5) — Eagles: DOUBTFUL: S J.R.
Reed (hamstring). QUESTIONABLE: G Jermane Mayberry (calif): DT Sam Rayburn
(elbow/concussion). PROBABLE: K David Marie Managaria (elbow/concussion), PRUBABLE.

Akers (hip); S Brian Dawkins (forearm); LB Dhani Jones (ankle); WR Todd Pinkston (knee); T Jon Runyan (groin); DT Corey Simon (calf); TE LJ, Smith (hamstring); RB (et al.); This CB Dexter Wynn Brian Westbrook (rib); CB Dexter Wynr (hamstring). Cowboys: OUT: RB Julius Jones (shoulder). QUESTIONABLE: S Kelth Davis (hip); WR Quincy Morgan (hamstring); CB Ty rone Williams (hamstring).

Pro soccer

MLS playoffs MLS Cup Sunday, Nov. 14 At Carson, Calif. D.C. United vs. Kansas City

College football

AP Top 25 fared

How the top 25 teams in The Associated ress' college football poll fared Wednes-No. 1 Southern Cal (9-0) did not play. Next: vs. Arizona, Saturday No. 1. Southern Cal (5-0) did not play. Next: Vs. Arizona, Saturday.
No. 2. Oklahoma (9-0) did not play. Next: vs. No. 3. Auburn (9-0) did not play. Next: vs. No. 6. Beorgia, Saturday.
No. 4. Wisconsin (9-0) did not play. Next: at Michigan State, Saturday.
No. 5. Deditional (7-2) did not play. Next: at No. 5. Cellifornia (7-2) did not play. Next: at No. 6. Texas (8-1) did not play. Next: at No. 6. Texas (8-1) did not play. Next: at Kan-sas, Saturday. No. 6 Texas (8-1) did not play, Next: at Kan-sas, Saturday,
-0) did not play, Next: at Wyo-ming, Saturday,
No. 8 Georgia (6-1) did not play, Next: at No. 3 Aubrun, Saturday,
No. 9 Michigan (6-1) did not play, Next: vs. No. 9 Michigan (6-1) did not play, Next: vs. No. 10 Virginia (7-1) did not play, Next: vs. No. 10 Virginia (7-1) did not play, Next: vs. No. 11 Florida State (7-2) did not play, Next: at North Carolina State, Saturday, so. 1.1 Florida Statis C.7.2 did not plays, No. 1.2 Loughtle (1-7) beat (T.025-28. Next at House), Saturday, Nov. 23. did not play. Nov. 1.2 Loughtle (1-7) beat (T.025-28. Next at House), Saturday, Nov. 23. did not play. Nov. 1.2 Loughtle (1-7) beat (1-7) beat

кись, зацигаву. No. 24 Notre Dame (6-3) did not play. Next: vs. Pittsburgh, Saturday. No. 25 Oklahoma State (6-3) did not play. Next: vs. Baylor, Saturday.

Wednesday No. 12 Louisville 55, TCU 28 TCU ' ouisville 7 0 7 14-28 24 3 21 7-55

First Quarter
Lou—Bush 12 run (Carmody kick), 12:14
Lou—Russell 32 pass from LeFors (Carnody kick), 10:06
Lou—FC Carmody 23 a - -

mody kick), 10:06
Lou—FG Carmody 31, 8:07
Lou—Clark 42 pass from LeFors (Carmody kick), 2:07
TCU—Rodgers 72 pass from Gunn (Wynn kick), 2:9

dck), :29
Second Quarter
Lou—FG Carmody 22, 10:31
Third Quarter
Lou—Russell 25 pass from LeFors (Car-Lou-Russell 25 pass from LeFors (Car-mody kick), 10:45 Lou-Clark 48 pass from Bush (Carmody kick), 9:14

kički, 9:14"
TCU—McCarty 16 pass from Gunn (Wynn kick), 4:53
Lou—Gates 1 nn (Carmody kick), 3:09
Lou—Barnidge 25 pass from Brohm (Carmody kick), 4:555
TCU—Merrill 2 run (Wynn kick), 9:00
TCU—Warper 6 pass from Kummer (Wynn Kuck)

kick), :53 A-40,107.

First downs Rushes-yards Passing Comp-Att-Int Return Yards

TCU Lou 43-213 374 18-32-0 193 41-113 195 13-26-1 275 10-37 6 4-47

Fumbles-Lost

Time of Possession 31:33
INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS
Rushing—TCU, Merrill 19-76, Hob ummer 3-16, Rodgers 1-4, Boyd 1-2, De riest 1-0, Gunn 9-(minus 16). Louisville, Shel

ton 10-57, Lefors 5-40, Gates 10-36, Brohm 5-34, Bush 5-25, Bradshaw 8-214, Kumner 3-34, Bush 5-25, Bradshaw 8-214, Kumner 3-61-30, Hassell 2-40-25, Louisville, Lefors 13-21-0-275, Brohm 4-10-0-51, Bush 1-1-0-48, Recebing -TOL, Rodgers 4-114, McDarl 2-37, Grimmett 2-14, Merrill 2-1, Pearson 1-14, Hobbs 1-3, Draper 1-5, Louisville, Russell 5-107, Tinch 4-02, Clarix 2-90, Louisville, Substance 1-25, Bouglas 1-13, Shell 5-107, Tinch 4-02, Clarix 2-90, Louisville, Russell 5-10, Russe

College basketball

AP Men's Top 25 schedule

Thursday's games
No. 6 Syracuse vs. Nortifiern Colorado
No. 12 Mississippi State vs. Fairfield at Birningham, Ala.
No. 24 Memphis vs. Savannah State
Priday's games
No. 6 Syracuse vs. Bucknell or Princeton
No. 12 Mississippi State vs. Alabama ABAM
J. Birmingham-Southern at Birmingham

No. 24 Memphis vs. Indiana-Purdue-Fort Wayne or George Mason

Wednesday's men's scores

MIDWEST Briar Cliff 63, Peru St. 54 Huntington 77, Purdue-Calumet 50 Indiana Wesleyan 68, St. Francis, Ill. 63 McKendree 99, Lindenwood 93

McKendree 95, Linderwood 93

Park 81, William Jewell 66
Southwestern, Devell 67
Southwestern, Devell 68
Linderwood 18
Linderwood Lamar 8b, Detta St. 58
Michigan St. 77, Grand Valley St. 62
Michigan St. 77, Grand Valley St. 62
Michigan St. 77, Grand Valley St. 62
Michigan St. 70, Grand Valley St. 62
Michigan St. 70, Catawba 65
Michigan St. 70, Catawba 65
UTEP 87, Monterrey Tech 67
Vermont 105, Concordia 66
Washington St. 62, Lewis-Clark St. 5
Western Carolina 64, Ersking 48
W. Illinois 71, Sul-Evardsville 64
Wisconsin 81, Wis-Parkside 42

AP Women's Top 25 schedule (x-must win previous game) Thursday's game

Thursday's game

No. 3 LSU vs. Maine
Friday's Games

No. 3 LSU vs. Arizona State or Virginia No. 3 LSU vs. Artizona State or Virginia No. 6 Duke vs. Artizona State or Virginia No. 10 Notre Dame vs. Illinois State No. 10 Ohjo State vs. Bowling Green No. 24 Artizona vs. St. Mary's, Cal. Surday's games No. 3 Exercise vs. No. 21 Penn State No. 3 LSU vs. No. 8 Baylor at Austin, Texas No. 6 x-Duke vs. South Florida or Middle

rennessee No. 10 x-Notre Dame vs. Western Illinois or Nebraska

o. 10 x-Ohio State vs. Boston U. or Saint oseph's

No. 14 Minnesota vs. UNLV at Seattle, 4

Mo. 24 x-Arizona vs. McNeese State or Rice

Monday's game

No. 14 Minnesota at Washington

Women's Preseason NIT

First Round Friday, Nov. 12 uth Florida at Middle Tenn owling Green at Ohio St. oston U. at Saint Joseph's /. Illinois at Nebraska cNeese St. at Rice inois St. at Notre Dame vidson at Duke Marv's, Cal, at Arizoni

Tennis

WTA Championships

Wednesday At The Staples Cente Los Angeles Purse: \$3 million Surface: Hard-Indoo Singles Singles
First Round
Russia, def. Vera

Serena Williams, United States, def. Anas-tasia Myskina, Russia, 4-6, 6-3, 6-4. Lindsay Davenport, United States, def. Elena Dementieva, Russia, 6-0, 6-1.

College soccer

Women's Div. I tournament First Round

Thursday, Nov. 11 At Chapel Hill, N.C. olina (17-0-2) vs Car vs. Campbell m & Mary (11-6-4) vs. Virginia Tech

william a Warry (11-24-) Vs. Virgilina Tech.

Friday, Nov. 12

At Santa Clara, Calif.

Call Poly, 14

At Santa Clara, Calif.

Call Poly, 15

At College Station, Texas

At College Station, Texas

Texas A&M (17-50) vs. Texas St. (13-9-0)

Nebraska (12-64) Vs. Oral Roberts (13-5-1)

Creighton (67-4) vs. Kayasas (17-4-0)

At Colleged A. Santa Clara (13-5-1)

Creighton (67-4) vs. Kayasas (17-4-0) Cloyado (14-52) vs. Ulah (15-5) Portland (17-4) vs. Weeler St. (6-9-2) Portland (17-4) vs. Weeler St. (6-9-2) West Virginia (14-50) vs. SMU (15-3) North Texas (15-51) vs. Texas (13-62) Harvard (8-6-8) vs. Colyate (12-6-2) Harvard (8-6-9) vs. Colyate (12-6-2) Dayton (20-10) vs. Wisconsin (15-51) Dayton (20-10) vs. Wisconsin (15-51) Dastyn (18-6-1)

James Madison (11-7-3) vs. Notre Dame (16-2-2) Duke (17-7-5) vs. Virginia (12-7-0) vs. Va. Commonwealth

15-6-0)

At Los Angeles
Pepperdine (9-6-3) vs. UCLA (13-6-0)
San Diego (11-7-2) vs. UNLV (12-4-2)
At Knoxville, Tenn.
Furman (13-8-0) vs. Tennessee (15-4-2)
Wake Forest (10-6-2) vs. UAB (15-5-1)
At Columbus, Ohio At Columbus, Ohio

Detroit (13-7-1) vs. Michigan (11-8-2)
Bowling Green (10-11-2) vs. Ohio St. (16-3-3)

Yale (13-4-0) vs. Villanova (13-5-2) Cent. Connecticut St. (11-9-1) vs. Princeton (15-2-0)

(15-2-0) At Gainesville, Fla.
Central Florida (16-3-2) vs. Florida (16-3-3)
Florida St. (12-5-2) vs. Boston College (14-6-0)

14-6-0)

At Auburn, Ala.
Washington (14-4-1) vs. Birming
am-Southern (12-6-3)
Clemson (10-7-2) vs. Auburn (14-3-2)
At State College, Pa.
Loyola, Md. (16-3-0) vs. Maryland (7-6-4)
Binghamton (14-6-1) vs. Penn St. (18-2-1)

Deals

Wednesday's transactions

AUTO RACING NASCAR—Placed Kevin Harvick and Kasey NASCAR—Placed Rovin Harvick and Kasey Robaton, Grivers, on probability through the S10,000 for deliberately crashing into each read to the S10,000 for deliberately crashing into each reader show the S10,000 for deliberately crashing into each reader show the S10,000 for deliberately crashing into each reader showing a windshield that was not an approved part and do not meet the minimum SASCHAUL S

director of professional scouting.
PITTSBURGH PIRATES—Named Tim Schuldt vice president of marketing and sales.
BASKETBALL

BASKETBALL

National Basketball Association

LOS ANGELES LAKERS—Placed F Jumaine
Jones on the injured list.

NEW YORK KNICKS—Waived F Shandon
Anderson.

NEW YORK KNICAS—

NOT SALL

NATIONAL FOOTBALL

NATI risive backs coach. Named Jimmy Spencer efensive backs coach. GREEN BAY PACKERS—Activated CB Chris ihnson from the physically unable to perorm list.

JACKSONVILLE JAGUARS—Waived DT WillBAGE Signed LB Jimmy McClain.
KANSAS CITY CHIEFS—Placed LB Shawn

MAMI DOLPHINS—Terminated the con-ract of S Antuan Edwards. Reached an inju-y settlement with K Matt Bryant and

ny settlement with K Matt Bryant amu waved him. WIKINGS—Signed K Jose MANNES Stated K Jose MANNES Stated K Asron Elling on injured reserve. Signed O. Shannon Snell to the practice Squalk MANNES STATED STAT

squad.

SAN DIEGO CHARGERS—Signed TE Billy
Bahar to a one-year contract Baber to a one-year contract.

SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS—Released DL Otis
Leverette. Signed DL Chris Cooper.

TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS—Placed C. John
Wade on injured reserve. Signed DT Child Ahanotu, Signed K Jay Taylor to the practice
squad.

quad. SOCCER
Major League Soccer
LOS ANGELES GALAXY – Announced the re irement of MF Andreas Herzog.

TANK McNamara





RACING STRIPES

Nextel Cup's own Final Four

Title chase down to Busch, Gordon, Earnhardt and Johnson

The Associated Press

CHARLOTTE, N.C. - OK, so this is what NASCAR had in mind when it came up with its radical new points system.

NASCAR wanted a playoff series, like something other major sports use to crown its champion What it got is the Final Four on wheels.

Four ton-name drivers head into the final two races in a flag-to-flag points race, a scenario NASCAR officials could only have dreamed about when they created the 10-man, 10-race playoff system at the start of the sea-

Kurt Busch had been building a steady lead in the standings, but mediocre runs in the past two weeks have sliced his lead from 59-points to 41 over Jeff Gordon. Dale Earnhardt Jr. and Jimmie Johnson are right on Busch's bumper, too.

All three challengers are within 48 points of the leader. The last time four drivers had a chance at the title this late in the season was 1992, when Alan Kulwicki, Bill Elliott, Davey Allison and Harry Gant went into the final two events separated by 113 points.

So, what kind of racing should we see in the next two weeks?

"It's going to be aggressive, hard racing," said Gordon, seeking his fifth title. "Anybody who has a shot at it is going to be on edge and feel more pressure. They're going to be driving aggressive or they're going to be thinking about it too much and make a mistake."

The three challengers all think Busch is in the worst position.

He was seemingly on his way to a runaway championship after six races, overcoming every prob



Dale Earnhardt Jr. (8) passes Jeff Gordon for the lead during the final laps of the NASCAR Checker Auto Parts 500 on Sunday at Phoenix International Raceway in Avondale, Ariz. Earnhardt Jr. went on to win and Gordon finished third as both drivers closed in on Kurt Busch in the Nextel Cup driver standings.

lem thrown his way while building a 100-point lead in the standings

Then his engine blew up in Atlanta and all of his challengers finished in front of him in Phoenix

"You've got a guy who's got to be careful," Gordon said, referposition I'm in right now because the No. 97 has to be more cautious than I do."

But Busch insists he wouldn't trade the position he's in. When asked about his favorite to win the Nextel Cup, he didn't hesitate.

"I'd have to go with a vote toward the 97 team," he said.

"With the way we've been competitive at some of the short tracks, as well as the speedways and just being able to outrace the competitors

NASCAR's Final Four hits high

gear Sunday with the final Southern 500 at Darlington Raceway.

Gordon is the best driver there with six victories on NASCAR's oldest superspeedway. But his most recent win there was in 2001, and he's struggled since then with finishes of 33rd, 32nd and 41st in his three most recent

Busch was second 13th and sixth in his last three visits. Earnhardt, who pulled within

trips.

47 points of Busch by winning in Phoenix, struggles at Darlington. He's winless there with finishes of sixth, 25th and 10th in his last three races. He's no better at Homestead,

site of the season finale, where he has finishes of 13th, 15th, 21st and 24th.

"We haven't dominated those race tracks, Darlington or Homestead, but with the team that we've got now, I feel like we can go in there and have a weekend that we've never had at either one

of those tracks," he said.

"We'll be in Homestead all week really working our guts out every day in testing and trying to get it right. We thought about it last weekend and want to put ourselves back in position to win.

'We've got a lot to gain. These guys ain't going to be easy to beat."

But Busch isn't worried about any of the challengers, even Johnson, who won three consecutive races to climb back into contention.

"They've got to catch us," Busch said. "We're in the best position to continue to move for-ward. They have to reach out and gain positions and take advantage of other people sliding around on the track, and put their cars in awkward positions.

BUSCH SERIES

This week: BI-LO 200 at Darlington, C. (Tape-delayed, 1 a.m. Sunday,

AFN-Sports).

Last race: Jamle McMurray and Kyle
susch swapped the lead twice in the
linal 27 Japs, but McMurray used a surprising outside pass on a restart 10 laps
from the finish en route to winning the
sashas' Supermarket 200 at Phoenix International Raceway.

ternational Raceway.

Last year: Teenage teammates Brian Vickers and Busch finished 1-2 in the Winn-Dixie 200 at Darlington Raceway. Vickers crossed the line 1.977-seconds — about 10 car lengths — ahead of Busch



Top five contenders

Kurt Busch

when a caution came out. Still, he battled to a 10th place finish and held onto his lead in

a four place finish and neto onto his lead in the standings. With our hiccups out of the way, it's now a fresh slate for these final two races because now it just seems like we've got less and less competitors to look at and less and less competitors to beat out on the race track," Busch said.

leff Gordon

CAR: No. 24 DuPont Chevrolet CHASE POINTS: Second, 6.150 POSITION CHANGE: PIUS 1 WHAT HAPPENED: Gordon gained 31 points on the leader by finishing third. He trails Busch by 41 as he heads into the South-m 500 at Darlington—a race Gordon has won three times.

SPEAKING: "We're second in the pole with only two races left, so we need to be a gressive. The pressure will keep buildi and it will become more intense," Gord said.

Dale Earnhardt Jr.

CAR: No. 8 Budweiser Chevrolet CHASE POINTS: Third, 6,144 points POSITION CHANGE: Plus 2 WHAT HAPPENED: Earnhardt won in Phoe

nix to pull within 47 points of Busch. Before getting out of his car in Victory Lane, crew chief Tony Eury reminded him to watch his language. Earnhardt, remember, lost 25 this season for cursing in a Victory Lane inter-

Spassin for usuamg in a tree is no strategy.

SPEARING: "For us, there is no strategy.

SPEARING: "For us, there is no strategy.

We've given back so many points we should have night now that we can't even worry about the past.

Spearing the spassing the past of the pas

limmie Johnson

CAR: No. 48 Lowe's Chevrolet CHASE POINTS: Fourth, 6.143

POSITION CHANGE: Minus 2
WHAT HAPPENED: Johnson gained 11
points on Busch but is still 48 points out of
first place. He slipped two spots in the stand-

first place. He slipped two spots in the stand-ings after finishing sixth. SPEAKING: "I'm absolutely shocked that back in the middle of this points race. Winning races has put us back in that situa-tion, plus some bad luck on other guys part," Johnson said.

Mark Martin CAR: No. 6 Viagra Ford CHASE POINTS: Fifth, 6.089

POSITION CHANGE: Minus 1
WHAT HAPPENED: Martin called the Chase
a tale of lost opportunities after finishing
15th in Phoenix and falling 102 points behind

1901 In Prisens and raining to persons the leader.

SPEAKING: "We've been a lot better over the last 10 races than our finishes show. We've had good cars, but we've had trouble getting to where we need to be, so hopefully we can close the season out with a couple of really strong efforts," Martin said.

- Jenna Fryer, The Associated Press

NASCAR NEXTEL CUP

Race 35: Mountain Dew 500, 7 p.m. Sunday CET, AFN-Sports.

Last race: Dale Famhardt Jr. moved back into the championship chase by winning the Checker Auto Parts 500 at Phoenix International Raceway. He jumped from fifth to third in the driver standings and moved within 47

points of series leader Kurt Busch, who fin-

Last year: Terry Labonte ended a 156-race inless streak with a victory in the Southern 500 at Darlington.

the track, includ-ing two DNFs.

Jeff Gordon

Mark Martin

Jeff Burton, a
has six wirs at
has soored 22 two-time DarlingDoulington, includ, to-p-10 finishes into m vinner, it as
ing three straight 37 races at Darone
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100-110, 100-1 drivers at the su-perspeedway. The since joining the team in August.



Nextel Cup qualifying record Ward Burton, 173.797 mph, 1996 Nextel Cup race record

FAST FACTS

Dodge Dealers 400 at Darlington on March 21. No driver has swept both races at the races remaining since four were separated by 113 points in 1992.

POINTS RACE After 34 of 36 races

2. Jeff Gordon 6.150 3. Dale Earnhardt Jr. 4. Jimmie Johnson 6.143 5. Mark Martin 6.089 6. Tony Stewart 7. Ryan No 6.041 8. Elliott Sadler 5.869 5,855

9. Matt Kenseth 10. Jeremy Mayfield 5,836 ray 4,286 11. Jamie McM 12 Dale larrett 4.071 13. Kasev Kahne 4.070 4,027 15. Bobby Lat 16 leff Rurton 3 723 17. Rusty Wallace 3,704

20 Gree Riffle 3 616

19. Joe Nemech

CRAFTSMAN TRUCK 3,702 3,649

Last race: David Starr won the Chevy

Next race: Ford 300, Nov. 20, Home

ell out of contention with a rice of Last year: Bobby Hamilton outlasted dusgrave to win the Craftsman 200 at parlington, giving him both victories in Musgrave to win the Craftsman 200 a Darlington, giving him both victories in the event's two-year history.

Next race: Ford 200, Nov. 19, Home ctean Fig.

FORMULA ONE

Last race: Juan Pablo Montoya won in ils final race for Williams-BMW, beat-ng future McLaren teammate Kimi taikkonen in the Brazillan Grand Prix on

NASCAR lifts ban on liquor **sponsors**

BY MIKE HARRIS The Associated Press

NASCAR has lifted its ban on hard-liquor ads on cars, easing re strictions aimed at cleaning up the image of a sport that traces its roots to good ol' boys running moonshine through the hills of Georgia and the Carolinas.

"We felt the time was right," NASCAR president Mike Helton said Wednesday. "Attitudes have changed, and spirits companies have a long record of responsible

advertising."
NASCAR already allowed beer and malt liquor sponsorships. Budweiser sponsors Dale Earn hardt Jr.'s car, for example, and Busch sponsors a lower-tier rac-

ing series NASCAR had restricted what liquor companies could do since the sport's modern era began in 1972, most recently denying a bid from Roush Racing in June to put a liquor company on the car that Jeff Burton drove. However, International Speedway Corp., a sister company also controlled by NASCAR's founding France familv. has agreements with Crown Royal.

Diageo a British liquor company that was already an associate sponsor for Matt Kenseth with its Smirnoff ICE malt beverage, immediately announced Wednesday that its Crown Royal distilled whiskey will be the sponsor on another Roush car next season.

"Our association with this world-class racing team allow us to connect with millions of adult consumers, who are devoted NASCAR fans, and remind them about the importance of responsible drinking," Diageo spokesman Mark Waller said. "A



Ryan Newman (12) takes the checkered flag ahead of Kurt Busch (97) and Matt Kenseth (17) to win an IROC race at Daytona last February. All three cars were sponsored by Crown Royal. NASCAR returned to its roots on Wednesday by lifting a ban on liquor ads on cars, opening the door for teams to be sponsored next season by distilled spirits.

multimillion dollar marketing budget supporting this sponsorship will include dedicated social responsibility messaging.

Enjoying tremendous growth in mainstream popularity lately, the racing league landed a \$2.8 billion television contract with NBC and Fox that began in 2001, and this season switched the sponsorship of its top division from cigarette-maker R.J. Reynold's Winston brand to telecommunications giant Neytel

As part of the scrubbing-up pro-cess, Helton told drivers in February to watch their language on radio and television. Earnhardt Jr. was fined and lost points for uttering a vulgarity during a postrace interview on TV.

Helton said any liquor companies entering NASCAR must follow advertising guidelines set by the sanctioning body.

"Any spirits company involved in NASCAR will have marketing campaigns strongly grounded in responsibility and will follow advertising and marketing guidelines set by NASCAR that are consistent with the Distilled Spirits Council's advertising code," Helton said.

NASCAR's review before deciding to lift the ban included outreach to advocacy groups such as the National Commission Against Drunk Driving, Mothers Against Drunk Driving and industry groups such as the Distilled Spirits Council of the United States

John Moulden, president of the National Commission Against Drunk Driving, said he is im-pressed with NASCAR's approach to the policy change "They appear to be trying to do it right," Moulden said.

"When we talked NASCAR, I stressed to them how important NASCAR is to young males, who make up the majority of drunk drivers. They told us that any advertising done in NASCAR by breweries or distillers, they'll make sure it is directed at the legal age audience and not to kids and that they will require 20 percent of advertising dollars go toward promoting responsible drinking

We'd like to see that same type of responsibility by all sports d advertisers."

Helton said internal discus-sions about allowing distilled spirits companies into the sport have been going on for at least 12 years, but the topic kept coming

"I can't point to a specific issue that made us change our opinion as much as the topic just recurring to the point where we said, 'Look, what's wrong with this? Why should we not do this?" " Helton said

"I think the feedback that we get is that the core fan of NASCAR, which we feel like represents Americana as much as any sport does, is OK with spirits whether they are here or not as sponsors," he said. "And we also feel like the American public in general understands and accepts the fact that that's part of everyMixed up

NASCAR sends confusing message by approving liquor sponsorships

too many mixed cocktails, can cause a nasty hangover.

NASCAR is setting itself up for a lulu of a head-splitter by trying to reconcile hard-liquor ads on race cars with efforts to spiff up the image of a sport that traces its roots to moonshine runners

It's kind of schizo-marketing to extol a wholesome "family val-ues" business while drivers are behind the wheels of speeding cars painted like beer cans and, Jack Daniel's and other

whiskey bottles.
In NASCAR's world, where the name of the game is sponsorship, drinking and Steve Wilstein driving go together a little

too neatly. though. should saying he likes his hops

or sour mash too blankety much. Cuss-ing, as Dale Earnhardt Jr discovered, is

punishable by points. On one level, the the decision Wednesday to lift the ban on hard-liquor ads is no big deal. Budweiser sponsors Earnhardt's car, Matt Kenseth has a deal with Smirnoff ICE malt beverage, and sponsors lower-tier racing series. There's enough beer poured by fans at a race to float all the cars. So why should anyone get

worked up over letting the drivers hawk higher-proof booze? Whiskey, beer, wine? It's all alco-hol and it's all legal, unlike the moonshine that the good ol' boys barreled through the hills of Georgia and the Carolinas way back

Let's not cry out for a return to Prohibition but let's not kid ourselves that a sport like NASCAR. and the sponsorships behind it, doesn't influence its fans, young and old. Let's not pretend that there's

no incongruity in the driv-ing/drinking bargain that NASCAR has struck. More than 17,000 people die and a half-million are injured every year because of drunken driving.

NASCAR knows it's on dangerous ground here, no matter how lucrative the deals might be. President Mike Helton went to great pains to sugarcoat the mixed message by emphasizing the "long record of responsible advertis ing" by the spirits companies.

That's questionable, but there also is the real wreckage caused by drunken drivers in the 18-to-34 male demographic that NASCAR so assiduously and suc-

cessfully cultivates. "Any spirits company involved in NASCAR will have marketing campaigns strongly grounded in

responsibility and will follow advertising and marketing guide-lines set by NASCAR that are consistent with the Distilled Spirits Council's advertising code," Hel-

ton said

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to advocacy groups such as the National Commission Against Drunk Driving and Mothers Against Drunk Driving.

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'We'd like to see that same type of responsibility by all sports and advertisers."

Problem is, there are plenty of NASCAR fans under 21 watching those alcohol ads going around the track and making the obvious connection with life in the fast

Wendy Hamilton, president of MADD, is holding back judgment, saying the only contact she had with NASCAR was a few e-mails and an agreement to participate on an advisory committee.

Personally, she said, she's al-ways thought it was "absurd" to put alcohol ads on cars. But she emphasized that MADD is not a prohibitionist organization and does not oppose alcohol advertising aimed at drinkers over 21.

'NASCAR, with its fan base, has the opportunity to be a player in this world when it comes to drunk driving because clearly not enough people are getting the message," Hamilton said.

'Our position is very clear. We're going to be talking about all alcohol, not just the distilled spirits industry, and our message is no underage drinking and don't mix drinking and driving."

Every sport should be sending the same message. Binge drink ing on college campuses, especial-ly at football and basketball games, is huge.
"There isn't a single area of

sports in this country where some athlete hasn't been convicted for drunk driving or has hurt somebody driving drunk." Hamilton

Just last week, 19-year-old, six-time Olympic champion swimmer Michael Phelps was arrested and charged with drunken driving in Maryland, where the legal drinking age is 21

"I want to say that last week I made a mistake. I wanted to share my feelings and I know that getting in a car with anything to

drink is wrong, dangerous and is unacceptable," Phelps said. Hamilton called Phelps' ac-tions "very disappointing" but said "he still has an opportunity to be a great role model by doing the right thing and accepting the consequences and never doing it again

NASCAR has a chance, too, to be a model for sports and do more than simply make money off its beer and liquor deals. That's a sobering thought it can't afford to pass up.

Steve Wilstein is a national sports columnist for The Associated Pres Write to him at swilstein(at)ap.org

Cops busted for giving Elliott a ride drag racing stars Joe Amato and The Associated Press

ATLANTA - Two Georgia State Patrol troopers were suspended without pay for letting NASCAR driver Bill Elliott hop a ride in their heliconter when they were supposed to be reporting about marijuana fields.

The troopers spent two hours shuttling Elliott from his home in Dawsonville, where he dropped off an airplane, back to Blairsville, where Elliott's car was parked. Cpl. Kevin Coalson, the pilot,

was suspended for three days last week, and Lt. Eddie Williams began a six-day suspension Monday, The Atlanta Journal-Constitution reported.

During the June 29 flight over northern Georgia, Elliott, a licensed helicopter pilot, took the controls of the surplus military



aircraft intended only for law enforcement Meanwhile, anti-drug officers on the ground waited for details about the location of the marijua-

na fields

The newspaper said the troopers couldn't be reached for comment Wednesday. According to in-vestigative files, they said they didn't know there was anything wrong with giving Elliott a ride.

Waltrip heads to Hall of Fame

TALLADEGA, Ala. — Three-time NASCAR champion Darrell Waltrip heads the latest class of inductees into the International Motorsports Hall of Fame. Waltrip is joined by longtime

Bob Glidden, powerboat champion Chip Hanauer and Formula One and CART champion Nigel

"This is a powerful class, one in which each member had a significant impact on the history of his particular form of racing," Jim Freemand, executive director of the Hall of Fame, said Wednes-"All five of them have won multiple championships. It is quite a group.'

Waltrip won 84 races and Winston Cup titles in 1981, 1982 and

Amato had 54 NHRA Top Fuel wins and five division championships. Glidden captured 10 Pro

Stock titles and 85 race victories.

Hanauer won seven Unlimited Hydroplane national and world titles and 61 national events, includ-ing a record 11 Gold Cup races.

James' 38 rally Cavaliers 🛭

The Associated Press

CLEVELAND James brought Cleveland back as far as he could, and then got some help. Some big help. Cavaliers center Zydrunas II-

gauskas drained three long jumpers, including a tying three-pointer at the end of regulation, and Cleveland ral-



lied for a 114-109 overtime win against Phoenix on Wednesday night, the

Suns' first loss this season James scored a season-high 38 points — 17 during an amazing one-man comeback in the fourth quarter - for Cleveland, which trailed by 19 entering the final period before nulling off one of the

most unlikely comebacks in the club's 35-year history. James also made the pass that set up a stunning three-pointer by the 7-foot-3 Ilgauskas with 3.6 sec-

onds to go. "He's made that shot so many times in practice." James said. "Z is a good shooter. There was no hesitation in giving it to him. I don't need to shoot every time for us to win.

Drew Gooden had 16 points and a career-high 21 rebounds for the Cavaliers, who were outscored by 18 points in the third but then turned around and outscored Phoenix 31-12 in the final 10:04 to force overtime.

Shawn Marion scored 22 points, Quentin Richardson had 21 and Amare Stoudemire 20 for Phoenix. Steve Nash had 15 points and 17 assists for the Suns. who came in as the league's hottest team and were in control after a dominant third quarter

But James brought the Cavaliers back all by himself.

"We were down big, and LeB-ron said, 'Hev. I'm going to get it done for you in the fourth quarter," Cavs coach Paul Silas said. "To win that kind of game is unbe-

lievable.' 76ers 108. Nets 100 (OT): Allen Iverson hit the tying jumper with 7.2 seconds left in regulation and Corliss Williamson scored seven of his 15 points in overtime

Marc Jackson added 19 points and Kyle Korver 15 for the Sixers, who snapped a three-game losing streak. Philadelphia scored the first seven points of overtime and held on for its first home win of the season.

Celtics 90. Trail Blazers 88: Paul Pierce returned from taking a hit in the mouth in the final minute to make a 17-foot fallaway jumper as time expired

Gary Payton scored 15 points for Boston and became the 29th player in NBA history to reach 20,000

Clippers 102, Pacers 68: Elton Brand had 19 points and 16 rebounds, and Los Angeles handed depleted Indiana the worst home loss in franchise history.

The Clippers outscored the Pacers 31-7 in the second quarter, holding Indiana (4-1) to a franchise-low for points in a period.

Bobby Simmons added 18 points for the Clippers.

Scot Pollard missed the game with a sore back, Jonathan Bender was out with a viral infection and Jermaine O'Neal missed the fourth quarter after aggravating his injured left foot. Indiana, led by Stephen Jackson with 17 points, dressed only nine players.

Wizards 106, Magic 96: Larry Hughes and Antawn Jamison scored 26 points apiece for the Wizards.

Jarvis Hayes added 15 points for the Washington, which snapped a two-game losing streak and won at home for the first time this season.

Grant Hill led Orlando with 24 oints, six rebounds and four as-

Grizzlies 110, Lakers 87: Pau Gasol scored 22 points and Shane Battier added 18, and Memphis won for the first time in five games this season.

Kobe Bryant, guarded by a



Cleveland Cavaliers' LeBron James celebrates after beating the Phoenix Suns 114-109 in overtime Wednesday.

three-man rotation, had 20 points on 4-for-19 shooting. Bucks 102. Bobcats 100: Des-

nond Mason scored 31 points, including three free throws in the final minute, and Michael Redd

added 26 for the host Bucks. Keith Van Horn had 23 points for the Bucks, who trailed most of the night.

Raptors 104, Jazz 95: At Salt Lake City, Chris Bosh scored 20 points, Rafer Alston hit a key three-pointer down the stretch oronto handed Utah its first loss of the season.

Spurs 91. Warriors 71: Tim Duncan had 23 points and 18 rebounds, and Manu Ginobili added 22 points to lead San Antonio of over winless Golden State (0-5).

Benched Artest wanted time off to promote album

The Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS - Indiana Pacers forward Ron Artest said Wednesday that he asked coach Rick Carlisle for time off because of a busy schedule that included promoting a soon-to-be released rap album, which led to his two-game benching.

Artest said that he asked Carlisle for as much as a month off to heal his aching body and recover from a particularly busy schedule.

"My body has been aching, I was going to take some time off and I said it the wrong way," Artest said. "Everything that happened wasn't too negative. I kind of surprised the team by wanting to take some games off, just to get back together, maybe stay home for a little bit, rest a little bit and come back.

The 24-year-old is scheduled to release his debut rap album this month and has been making promotional appearances.

It's the latest in a line of controversial situations for Artest, ranging from destroying television monitors two years ago to missing the team flight to Game 6 of the Eastern Conference finals at Detroit last season.

NBA scoreboard

Eastern Conference L Pct 1 .800 2 .500 3 .400 3 .400 2 .333 Toronto Boston New Jersey Philadelphi

11/ Detroit Milwaukee Cleveland Chicago

Western Conference



Wednesday's games Washington 105, Orlando 96 Boston 90, Portland 68 Philadelphia 108, New Jersey 100, OT L.A. Clippers 102, Indiana 68 Cleveland 114, Phoenix 109, OT Memphis 110, L.A. Lakers 87 Memphis 110, L.A. Lakers 87 Milwaukee 102, Charlotte 100 San Antonio 91, Golden State 71 Toronto 104, Utah 95 Seattle 108, Sacramento 78 Thursday's games

Dallac at Mic : Miami ta at Houston Minnesota at Houston
Detroit at Denver
Fiday's games
Charlotte at Boston
Indiana at Philadelphia
L.A. Lakers at Orlando
L.A. Clippers at New York
Miami at San Antonio
Golden State at Memphis
Atlant at New Orleans
Toronto at Seattle

oronto at Seattle
Saturday's gar
Dallas at New Jersey
Washington at Cleveland
Golden State at Charlotte
San Antonio at Atlanta

New York at Indiana L.A. Clippers at Chicago New Orleans at Milwauk L.A. Lakers at Houston Detroit at Utah Sacramento at Phoenix

Wednesday Wizards 106, Magic 96

ORLANDO — Hill 10-22 4-4 24, Howard 2-8 0-2 4, Battle 2-7 2-4 6, Francis 7-17 9-10 23, Stevenson 2-7 0-04, Garrity 6-10 2-2 16, Turko-glu 5-13 1-1 13, Bradley 1-2 0-0 2, Nelson 2-6 0-0 4, Augmon 0-0 0-0 0. Augmon 0-0 0-0 0. als 37-92 18-23 96.

Totals 51-92 10-23 CM Hughes 8-18 10-10-20 6-6 26, Mur-fin 1-4 3-3 5, Haywood 5-7 3-4 13, Hughes 8-18 10-11 26, Arenas 4-10 1-2 10, Hayes 4-13 7-8 15, Peeler 0-3 0-0 0, Walker 0-0 2-2 2, Profit 0-10-0 0, Dixon 4-8 0-9 .

Totals 36-84 32-36 106.

Totals 36-84 32-36 106.

Totals 40-85 10-

Celtics 90, Trail Blazers 88

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12.1 ib. - 10.1 ib. - 1

76ers 108, Nets 100 (OT)

NEW JERSEY — E.Williams 5-12 6-7 17, Col-lins 1-2 0-0 2, Mourning 4-7 8-11 16, Planinic 1-2 1-1 4, Jefferson 11-21 10-15 33, Vaughn 2-3 0-0 4, Scalabrine 4-11 0-0 9, A.Williams 0-1 0-0 0, Buford 6-15 2-2 15, Krstic 0-1 0-0 0. Totals 44-75 27-36 100. 75 27-36 10u. *HILADELPHIA — Iguodala 3-10 4-4 11, Tho-is 4-8 2-2 10, Jackson 5-12 9-11 19, Iverson 5-15 14-17 26, McKie 0-0 0-1 0, Skinner 1-4 0-0 2, Green 4-7 0-3 10, Korver 5-10 2-2 15, Will-lamson 3-7 9-11 15, K.Brown 0-0 0-0 0, J.Davis iamson 3-7 9-11 15, K.Brown 0-0 0 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 30-73 40-51 108.

27 26 21 22 4-100 24 20 30 22 12-108 Philadelphia 24 20 30 22 12—108 Three-Point Goals—New Jersey 5-13 (Planinci 1.) efferson 1-3, Scalabrine 1-3, Burninci 1.) efferson 1-3, Scalabrine 1-3, Burninci 1.) efferson 1-3, Scalabrine 1-3, Fouled out—Scalabrine, E.Williams, Tho-Korver 3-8, Green 2-4, hereson 2-6, Bjundala 1-5), Fouled out—Scalabrine, E.Williams, Tho-Korver 1-5, Foundation 1-5, Foundation 1-5, Foundation 1-5, Foundation 1-5, Foundation 1-6, Foundation 1-

Clippers 102, Pacers 68

Lingues 12, racers of 20 Control of the Control of

Grizzlies 110, Lakers 87

L.A. LAKERS — Butler 3-11 3-3 9, Odom 4-7 6-8 14, Mihm 5-8 4-6 14, Atkins 0-3 2-4 2, Bry-ant 4-19 10-13 20, Grant 5-6 2-3 12, Cook 4-6 0-9 9, Walton 1-3 0-0 2, T.Brown 0-4 0-0 0, Rush 1-4 0-0 2, Vujacic 1-5 0-0 3. Totals 28-76 27-37 87.

77-37 87.

MEMPHS — Battler 6-10 4-6-18, Gasol 6-11
0-13 22, Wright 3-8-0-0 6, Williams 6-11 2-2
17, Wells 0-4-0 0, Miller 4-11 4-13, Dones
5-7 1-2 12, Swiff 3-10 3-3 9, Watson 4-8-0-0,
2ardinal 2-4-0-2-4,
Totals 39-84

Memphis
Three-Point Goals—LA Lakers 4-17 (Bryant 2-6, Cook 1-1, Vujacic 1-3, Rush 0-2, Akkins 0-2, Buther 0-3), Memphis 1-8 (Williams
kins 0-2, Buther 0-3), Memphis 1-8 (Williams
kins 0-2, Buther 0-3), Memphis 1-8 (Williams
er 1-4), Fouled out—None, Rebounds—LA
Lakers 54 (Gohn 11), Memphis 75 (Will 10),
Assists—LA, Lakers 16 (Bryart, Atkins 4),
Couls—LA, Lakers 25, Memphis 1-24, Technicals—Atkins, Memphis Defensive Three Second, A—18,119 (13,000).

Bucks 102, Bobcats 100

Bucks 102, Bohcets 100

CHARLOTTE - Ostoff +11 0-0 8, Wallace
6-14-0-12, Breaze 6-16-4-28, Mart 6-8-7-8-10,
6-14-0-12, Breaze 6-16-4-28, Mart 6-8-7-8-10,
6-14-0-12, Capter 9-10-0-11, Deliver 10-12-13,
6-10-2-7, Rapon 9-10-0-11, Deliver 10-12-13,
6-14-21, Gatgeric 9-14-0-11, Williams
18-14-21, Gatgeric 9-14-0-11, Williams
18-14-21, Gatgeric 9-14-0-11, Williams
18-14-21, Gatgeric 9-14-0-11, Williams
19-14-0-10, Gatgeric 9-14-0-11, Williams
19-14-0-11, Will

Spurs 91, Warriors 71

36-77 15-24-91.
Golden State 12 21 24 14-71.
San Antonio 22 23 18 27-91.
Three-Point Coals--Codel at 5-10 (RiHree-Point Coals--Coals--Codel at 5-10 (RiHree-Point Coals--Codel at 5-10 (RiHree

Raptors 104, Jazz 95

Raptors 1.04, Jazz 95
T080NTO - Carter 7:18-11.6 Bosh 10-14
0-2.0, Woods 5-5 45-14, Aston 3-11.2-2 5-6
0-2.8 Bosh 0-14 5-6
0-2.8 Bosh 0-15 5-8
0-2

28 26 22 28-104 29 23 27 16- 95 Toronto Utah Wah

29 23 27 16—95

Three-Point Goals—Toronto 6-18 (Marshall
2-2, Alston 2-6, Rose 1-3, Carter 1-4, Murray
0-1, Peterson 0-2), Utah 2-11 (Bell 2-4, Harpring 0-1, Giricek 0-1, Eisley 0-1, Kirlienko 0-2,
0-1, Gurde out—None Rebounds—Toronto 47 (Woods 9), Utah 56 (Kirlienko, Okur
10). Assists—Toronto 20 (Carter 5), Utah 18 (Eisley 5), Total fouls-Toronto 32, Utah 21

SuperSonics 108, Kings 78

SACRAMENTO — Stojakovic 6-15 3-3 16, Webber 2-13 7-8 11, Miller 7-12 3-6 17, Bibby 2-7 5-10 9, Christie 0-3 2-2 2, Jackson 4-12 2-2 10, Songaila 0-0 2-2 2, M.Evans 2-5 0-0 4, Os-2-0-10 9. Christie 0-3-2-2 2, Jackson 4-12 2-2 10, Songalla 0-0 2-2 2, M.Evans 2-5 0-0 4, Os-tertag 0-0 0-0 0, Barnes 2-7 1-6 5, E.Daniels 0-2 0-0 0, Martin 1-2 0-0 2. Totals 26-78 25-39 78.

78. SEATILE — R.Evans 1-3 0-2 2, Lewis 6-12 5-7 18, James 1-4 2-2 4, Allen 6-18 6-7 20, Ridnour 6-11 3-3 17, Radmanovic 5-9 2-2 14, A Daniels 5-11 1-1 12, Fortson 3-8 10-12 15, Collison 0-3 43. Wilkins 0-1 0-0 0, Swift 1-2 0-0 2, Cleaves 0-0 0-0 0, Totals 34-82 32-40 108. Sacrament 20

Leaves 1-9 u - 0 u 1. (Tatts) 3-42 12-40 186.
Seattle 18-5 settle 18-5 settle

Cavaliers 114, Suns 109 (OT)

PHOENIX — Johnson 7-14 0-0 17, Marion 9-22 4-5 22, Stoudemire 7-19 6-9 20, Nash 5-13 4-6 15, Richardson 8-18 0-0 21, Jacobsen 0-3 0-0 0, Voskuhi 0-2 0-0 0, Lampe 0-2 0-0 0, SHunter 5-8 4-6 14, Outlaw 0-1 0-0 0. Totals

S.Hutter F-S. 46-14, Dutfaw G-10-0 C Totals 1/10 128-50. Newble 2-6.2 4-6, Gooden 6-13-6-15, Illianskas 8-15-79-24, McInnis 6-13-4-15, Illianskas 8-15-79-24, McInnis 6-13-4-17, Janes 1-32-4 11-2, San Traylor 6-5, G-0, D. Harris 2-80-1-5, San Traylor 6-5, G-0, D. Harris 2-80-1-5, Traylor 1-5, Taylor 1-6, Taylor 1-5, Taylor 1-6, T McInnis 1-3, Newbile 0-1, Pavlovic 0-1, Snow 0-1). Fouled out—Stoudemire, Gooden. Re-bounds—Phoenix 65 (Marion 12), Cleveland 63 (Gooden 21). Assists—Phoenix 24 (Nash 17), Cleveland 22 (James, Snow 6). Total fouls—Phoenix 29, Cleveland 27. Techni-cals—Phoenix Defensive Three Second. A–15,190 (20,562).

NBA calendar

Jan. 5 — 10-day contracts may be signed. Jan. 10 — All player contracts guaranteed Jan. 10 — Ali piayer contracts guaranteed for rest of the season. Feb. 18-20 — All-Star weekend, Denver. Feb. 24 — Trading deadline, 3 p.m. EST. April 20 — Regular season ends. April 23 — Playoffs begin. June 7 – Earliest possible NBA Finals start.

uate.

June 21 — Early entry draft withdrawal deadline. deadline.
June 23 — Latest possible NBA Finals end
date.
lune 28 — NBA draft, New York.

Holmes likely out for Chiefs

The Associated Pres

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — The Kansas City Chiefs placed linebacker Shawn Barber on injured



Wednesday and prepared for Sunday's game at New Orleans without All-Pro

running back Priest Holmes.

Coach Dick Vermeil stopped
just short of saying Holmes

just short of saying Holmes would definitely be out, but the league's leading rusher and scorer was on crutches after straining a medical collateral ligament in his right knee. None of his teammates expected him to play. "There's not another Priest

"There's not another Priest Holmes in the National Football League," fullback Tony Richardson said. "When a guy like that goes down it forces all of us to pick our level of play up."

Derrick Blaylock, out last week with a deep thigh bruise, practiced full speed for the first time Wednesday and would start for the Chiefs (3-5) in Holmes' ab-

Blaylock, a fifth-round draft 2001, has carried 32 times for 150 yards, a 4.7 average. When Holmes left early in the third quarter of a 56-10 victory over Atlanta on Oct. 24, Blaylock came in and ran for four touchdowns. He also has mine receptions for 95 yards.

NFL injury update

Injuries to prominent NFL players, followed by team's prognosis. (See Page 3 for complete injury report provided by the league):

Bills: OT Mike Williams (neck) ques

tionable.

Buccaneers: DT Anthony McFarland (tricep strain) questionable.

Jets: DE Shaun Ellis (groin) questionable; S Jon McGraw (groin) questionable; S Jon McGraw (groin) questionable; RB Duce Staley (hamstring) questionable; RB Duce Staley (hamstring) questionable; RB Dur Kreider (hip flexor) questionable; RB Verron Haynes (turl toe) doubtly BI.

disgruntled first-round draft pick of 2003, would back up Blaylock. Meanwhile, linebacker Monty Beisel, who missed the past two weeks with a calf muscle injury,

will be asked to join Quentin Caver in replacing Barber. Titans QB McNair frustrated

by lingering chest injury

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Steve
McNair wants to help his Tennessee Titans start winning games

while redeeming his own sub-par performance this season. If only his chest would stop hurting whenever he gets out of

bed or throws a pass.

The NFL's co-MVP of 2003 has played through pain from a list of injuries, but he said Wednesday he still can't take a direct hit 2½ weeks after being knocked out of the Titans' 20-3 loss at Minnesota

on Oct. 24.

"Tm trying to fight through some of the pain and get some throwing in. The thing we're worried about now is, 'Can I take a hit?' If I do take the right hit, it's going to knock me out two three more weeks," McNair said.

three more weeks," McNair said.
McNair, who threw passes in
drills on Wednesday, is listed as
questionable on injury report, and
coach Jeff Fisher called McNair's
limited passing "encouraging."
He said the quarterback's availability will be a game-time decision Sunday against Chicago (3-5).

Spurrier rules out return to NFL

The Associated Press

GAINESVILLE, Fla. — Steve Spurrier wants to return to college coaching.

Spurrier fold several newspapers he has no intentions returning to the NFL after spending two losing seasons with the Washington Redskins. Spurrier left Florida in 2002

after 12 winning seasons, six Southeastern Conference championships and a national title. He went 12-20 with the Redskins and resigned after last season.

"T probably decided then that I was done with the NFL," he told The Gainesville Sun. "It wasn't the lifestyle best for me. You don't have scout teams in the NFL. When I was at Florida, I worked with the quarterback every snap for two hours. It

wasn't that way in the NFL."
Maimi Dolphins coach Dave
Wannstedt resigned Tuesday,
prompting speculation that Spurrier would bring his famed visor
and playbook to South Florida.
But Spurrier told Florida Today
that NFL teams shouldn't even
bother pursuing him.

"Tve said recently to several people that if I get back coaching, it will probably be a good college job somewhere," Spurrier said. "It seems like I'm better suited for that. So if I return to coaching, I think that would probably be the best idea."



Serena Williams, above, celebrates a 4-6, 6-3, 6-4 victory over Anastasia Myskina in the WTA Championships on Wednesday in Los Angeles.

U.S. sprinter Young gets banned for life

The Associated Pres

DENVER — Sprinter Jerome Young, a central figure in a dopejing case that could cost the U.S. relay team its gold medal from Sydney, was banned for life by the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency on Wednesday following his second positive test for a banned drug.

Young tested positive for EPO during a Paris meet in July, USADA said. He is believed to be the first sprinter to test positive for EPO, which is popular with endurance runners and cyclists.

Young, 28, tested positive for the steroid nandrolone in 1999, but was exonerated by a U.S. appeals panel in July 2000, avoiding a two-year ban. He ran in the opening and semifinal rounds of the 2000 Games, but not in the 1,600-meter final anchored by Michael Johnson.

All six members of the relay squad received gold medals, but Young's was stripped.

Other members of the team include 30-year-old Alvin Harrison, who accepted a four-year suspension in October for drug violations uncovered in the BALCO case. Harrison's twin and Sydney teammate, Calvin Harrison, is serving a two-year suspension for testing positive for drugs linked to the Bay Area Laboratory Co-Operative.

The Harrison cases and the latest involving Young all came after the Sydney Games. But track's world governing body, the International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF), has recommended declaring the entire Sydney relay team ineligible because of Young.

Last month, the U.S. Olympic Committee challenged the recommendation in a petition lodged with the Court of Arbitration for Sport in Lausanne, Switzerland. Young, who has denied using a prohibited substance, was not covered by the appeal.

"As a matter of course, we don't comment on specific individual drug cases," said Jill Geer, spokeswoman for USA Track & Field.

Darryl Seibel, a spokesman for the USOC in nearby Colorado Springs, said Young's suspension should not affect the case pending

Sports briefs

before the Court of Arbitration for Sport. "We have complete confidence

in the fairness of CAS proceedings and do not believe that the decision announced today will have any bearing on that proceeding." The CAS has not set a date for a hearing, he said.

Serena wins WTA opener

LOS ANGELES — Serena Williams rallied from a set and two service breaks down to beat French Open champion Anastasia Myskina 4-6, 6-3, 6-4 in the WTA Championships on Wednesday. U.S. Open winner Svetlana Kuz-

netsova avoided a second-set collapse and held on to defeat Vera Zvonareva 6-2, 6-4 in round-robin play. Lindsay Davenport, the world's

No. 1 player, defeated Elena Dementieva 6-0, 6-1.

The players are assigned to Red and Black four-woman groups. The two players with the best records from each group advance to Sunday's semifinals.

UCLA guard Bozeman out for season after knee surgery

LOS ANGELES — UCLA guard Cedric Bozeman, who was expected to start, underwent arthroscopic surgery on his right knee Wednesday and will miss the upcoming season.

The 2½-hour surgery came after Bozeman got hurt in practice last week. He stepped on a teammate's ankle and then fell on his left ankle and right knee, tearing the anterior cruciate ligament.

Rodman signs with ABA team

COSTA MESA, Calif.— Seven-time NBA rebounding champion Dennis Rodman signed a contract with the Orange County Crush of the American Basketball Association.

Rodman, trying to launch a comeback for several years, played on NBA championship teams in Detroit and Chicago, and played three games last season for the ABA champion Long Beach Jam.





Having survived first half, Ravens feel fit to make run

By DAVID GINSRURG The Associated Press

OWINGS MILLS, Md. - They went six straight weeks without their best receiver, lost the defending NFL rushing champion for two games and watched in horror as their All-Pro left tackle tumbled to the turf with a pulled hamstring

The Baltimore Ravens overcame a rash of injuries, the uneven play of quarterback Kyle Boller and the suspension of All-Pro running back Jamal Lewis to finish the first half of their schedule with the same record they had at the midpoint a year ago.

All-told, no one is complaining about being 5-3

"I'm pretty happy where we're at, given what we've gone through," Lewis said Wednesday. "I wish it was better, of course but we're doing well given that we lost a couple of guys and haven't had everybody on the field at the same time this year.'

Tight end Todd Heap, who led the Ravens in catches and receiving yards in 2003, sprained his ankle in the second game and has since taken up residence in the training room. He will miss a seventh consecutive game on Sunday against the New York Jets

Left tackle Jonathan Ogden also is out, still limping from a hamstring pull Oct. 24. Defensive back Deion Sanders will probably miss Sunday's game with a toe in

Fortunately, the Ravens have been able to fill the holes. When Lewis was suspended for violating the NFL substance abuse policy, Chester Taylor and Musa Smith performed adequately in his place

Terrell Suggs has made it easier for the Ravens to cope with the absence of linebacker Peter Boulware, who has yet to suit up this season because of a knee injury Casey Rabach won the job as the starting center after replacing the injured Mike Flynn.

Depth is a key, but the primary reason that Baltimore remains just two games behind first-place Pittsburgh in the AFC North is its defense. The Ravens have vielded an NFL-low 113 points, forced turnovers and scored four touchdowns on interception returns

Ed Reed, the NFL's defensive player of the week after his record 106-yard interception re-turn Sunday night in a 27-13 victory over Cleveland, believes the Ravens are poised to make a sec ond-half run.

"It's going to be fun," he said. The schedule suggests otherwise. Including Sunday's game against the Jets (6-2), the combined record of Baltimore's final four road opponents is an impos-

"We've been here before," coach Brian Billick said. "We've been 5-3 or worse. "That experience is huge, and

those who weren't here can draw from the guvs that were.



Ravens running back Jamal Lewis (31) is particulary fresh to help Baltimore make a second-half run after missing two games on suspension.

44 We've been here before. We've been 5-3 or worse. That experience is huge, and those who weren't here can draw from the guys

that were.

Brian Billick Rayens coach

This team appears to be similar to all the rest under Billick in that it relies heavily on defense and the running game. The offense is ranked 32nd in the NFL and Boller is the 16th-rated quarterback in the AFC

Although Boller has thrown only three touchdown passes compared to six interceptions, he went 24-for-38 for 223 yards two weeks ago against Philadelphia and was 17-for-30 for 142 yards

against the Browns.

eight weeks," he said. "I will continue to try and work hard each practice and learn new things and hopefully by Game 16 I'll be

Since Billick took over in 1999 the Ravens have gone 29-13 in November and December. The process begins in the summer, during a training camp that features a minimum of full-contact drills.

"The way we prepare for No-vember is the key," Lewis said. "Guys are pretty much fresh, just because of the way Coach takes care of us in training camp and at the beginning of the season."

Lewis is particularly fresh, in part because of his mandated two-week vacation. He talked about not getting enough action after 22 carries again the Browns but Wednesday he backed off that assertion

"I just need enough to get away with a win," he said. "Every good playmaker feels like if the ball is in his hands, he can make something happen. I just want to be able to utilize all my talents on the field, so we can win comfortably."



Bills running back Willis McGahee celebrates a touchdown with fans on Sunday. He says the leap might become his standard celebration.

McGahee's leap also a giant step for Bills

BY JOHN WAWROW The Associated Press

Any concerns Buffalo's run-

"I'm getting my swagger back,"

It was a game where McGahee

scored on a 12-yard scamper. Mc-

Gahee described the celebration

as spontaneous, because he was

first considering doing some kind

Now, it's something he might

"Yeah, that's something we're

going to start here in Buffalo from now on," McGahee said. "It's the McGahee leap."

Coach Mike Mularkey is OK

with it, but with one stipulation. "I like the emotion of it," Mular-

key said. "But just don't blow a leg or a knee out."

The Bills can't afford to lose Mc-

Gahee, the team's first-round

pick in the 2003 draft, who sup-

planted Travis Henry as the start-

McGahee's third in two games

The win was Buffalo's third, all coming with McGahee as the

And he now has three 100-yard

outings, only the third player since 1970 to do so in his first

three career starts, joining Ten-

nessee's Chris Brown this year

and former St. Louis Cardinal

Mitchell did it in four consecu-

tive starts in the 1980s, something

McGahee could match when the

The touchdown on Sunday was

of dance.

keep doing.

er last month.

Stump Mitchell.

(7-1) this Sunday. "Oh yeah? I didn't know that. ORCHARD PARK, N.Y. McGahee said. "That's a great

thing to hear about. But that's not my focus right now. My focus is to go out there and keep doing what I've been doing to maintain

Bills (3-5) travel to New England

What he's been doing is provid-ing a smashmouth identity to what had been a sputtering offense, helping the Bills win three of their last four — the loss coming in Henry's last start against Baltimore on Oct. 24.

"He's added a big spark for s," guard Chris Villarrial said. 'It's great to see him step in there the way he has. He's just taken

over. We're really excited about him being back there." Villarrial said he was watching college football's national champi onship game in 2003 when McGa-

hee, playing for Miami, was hurt. "To bounce back from something like that is pretty unbelievable," Villarrial said.

McGahee was rehabbing almost immediately after surgery and he was jogging in front of scouts three months later in the weeks leading up to the draft.

Projected to be a top-three pick before he was hurt, McGahee wasn't drafted until the Bills selected him 23rd overall.

McGahee said he hasn't thought about his injured knee since proving he could play in a competitive setting, gaining 81 yards rushing and a touchdown in two preseason starts in place of

an injured Henry.

Henry retained the starting job for the regular season but has struggled, managing just 300 yards and averaging 3.4 yards a carry in five starts.

McGahee has been more productive with 345 yards in his three starts, and averaging 3.7 vards a carry.

Deferring credit to his blockers. McGahee has a sense of the offense growing in confidence.

"We seem more happier every day," McGahee said. "We want to keep that feeling up, so we've got to keep doing what we've been

'I think I made strides the first full speed ahead

Louisville 'can't be stopped' — by **TCU**

BY CHRIS DUNCAN The Associated Press

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — Louisville scored on its first three possessions and had a 17-0 lead before TCU even had a first down. At the end of the half, the Cardi-

nals led 27-7 and had 312 yards. Yet, coach Bobby Petrino still wasn't satisfied with his offense in the first half of the Cardinals

55-28 victory Wednesday night. "I got after our offense a little bit at halftime because I felt like we could be doing more," Petrino

The 12th-ranked Cardinals (7-1, 5-0 Conference USA) moved the ball just as easily in the second half, finishing with 587 yards. "We did do some good things and ended up playing pretty well," he said.

Stefan LeFors threw three touchdown passes to help Louis ville beat TCU for the first time in four meetings since 2001. LeFors, completing 75 percent of his passes coming into the game, went 13-for-21 for 275 yards and became the sixth Louisville quarterback to go over 5,000 career passing yards.

"There was no pressure. It was fun," LeFors said.



Mondays in Stars and Stripes and on Oconus.com



Louisville running back Michael Bush (19) takes a handoff from quarterback Stefan LeFors en route to a 12-vard touchdown in the first quarter. Bush later threw a 48-vard touchdown pass to Broderick Clark.

Clark each had two touchdown

"If we come out and do what we do, we can't be stopped," Russell said. "We came out and took it to them

TCU (4-5, 2-4) allowed at least

40 points for the fifth time this sea son after giving up 40 points only five times in the previous six sea

"We don't deserve to play on na-tional TV right now," TCU coach Gary Patterson said. Louisville's defense held TCU to 308 yards after giving up 603 in

a 56-49 victory over Memphis last Thursday night. Louisville topped 50 points for the fourth time this season and went over 40 points for the ninth time in 21 games under Petrino.

in his second year.

The Cardinals, leading the nation with 542 yards per game, raced to a 17-0 lead in the opening 6:53 - before the Horned ogs got their initial first down.

Louisville took the opening kick-off and marched down the field in six plays, averaging 11 yards per snap. Michael Bush finished the drive with a 12-yard scoring run.
After a TCU punt, LeFors

scrambled twice to get the Cardinals across midfield again. He found Russell for a 32-yard touchdown pass with 10:06 left in the first quarter.

On the ensuing kickoff, Louisville's J.T. Haskins stripped the ball from Cory Rodgers and Louisville's Harry Douglas recovered at the TCU 38.

Art Carmody finished the Cardinals' scoring spree with a 31-yard field goal. At that point, the Horned Frogs had gained only 7 yards on three plays and fumbled

"We were able to get on them early and gain some momentum," Petrino said. "Once we got control and got in front of them, they didn't really feel like they could catch us "

LeFors started 4-for-4, then misfired on five straight passes before consecutive completions to Tinch and Russell. Clark caught LeFors' next pass and outran a defender for a 42-yard touchdown play, Louisville's longest scoring reception of the sea-

"We understood what they were going to do," Patterson said 'We just didn't make plays. At some point, you've just got to do your job?

The Cardinals' only early miscue came late in the first quarter, when Rodgers sneaked behind Louisville's Kerry Rhodes and caught a 72-vard touchdown pass from Tye Gunn.

Petrino replaced LeFors with freshman Brian Brohm late in the first quarter, the sixth time in eight games Petrino has made the first-half switch. Despite starting 1-for-6. Brohm drove the Cardinals for another field goal and a 27-7 lead.

Russell went over 100 yards receiving for the third straight game on a 25-yard touchdown pass from LeFors with 10:45 left in the third quarter. It was the third time this season LeFors has thrown three TD passes in a

Rush who was a star quarterback in high school, threw a 48-yard touchdown pass to Clark later in the quarter

Brohm returned in the fourth quarter and threw a 25-yard touchdown pass to tight end Gary Barnidge.



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Replay: Umps made correct calls on disputed plays in postseason

DEDLAY EDOM DACK DAG

Garcia worried that not every ballpark would be equipped with equal cameras to show replays from all angles. He also said he thought the concept of umpires huddling on close calls helped "take away the idea of instant replay."

Garcia was involved in one of the most disputed calls in October memory. He was working the right-field line in the 1996 ALCS when young fan Jeffrey Maier reached over the wall and grabbed the ball before Baltimore's Tony Tarasco could make a play, and it wound up as a home

a play, and it wound up as a home run for Derek Jeter. This year, the umps eventually

did make the right calls in key spots at the end of the year. In mid-September, Manny Ramirez circled the bases after his drive to left field was ruled fair. Moments later, the umpires

correctly said the Boston st shot hooked foul.

In Game 6 of the ALCS, Mark Bellhorn's drive to left field was originally ruled in play after it hit a fan in the front row at Yankee Stadium. After the umpires got together, it was rightly called a home run.

Later in that game, Rodriguez wound up on second base after he swatted at Boston pitcher Bronson Arroyo's arm and knocked the ball loose. After all six umpires huddled, plate umpire Joe West said he had a better view than first-base ump Randy Marsh and called Rodriguez out.

New Seattle manager Mike Hargrove thinks replay on such plays might help.

"They got it right with A-Rod, but it could be a benefit," he said. "I mean, I don't want to see us spend 15 minutes waiting on whether a ball is fair or foul. And

not on balls and strikes. But I could see it happening on selected plays."

Atlanta GM John Schuerholz looked forward to the debate.

"I think it's an appropriate topic to discuss," he said. "With modern technology, it's worth talking about.

"I'm not sure how I ultimately feel about it," he said. "But I'm open-minded, and want to hear what people have to say."

Williams says he'd welcome Beltran

BY BEN WALKER The Associated Press

KEY BISCAYNE, Fla. — Whatever position he winds up playing, Bernie Williams would welcome Carlos Beltran to the New York Yankees.

Beltran is a prime free agent, and the Yankees are expected to pursue him hard. He plays center field, the spot Williams has held down in the Bronx since 1992.

Recently, Beltran told Houston reporters that Williams offered this season to move aside for him in 2005. On Tuesday night, agent Scott Boras — who represents both players — added "that's something they've talked about and dealt with."

On Wednesday, Williams put a slightly different spin on what

"It was kind of like a lighter-tone conversation in-between batting practice," Williams said. "I think he took it as I took it. Kind of like a lighthearted, kind of like in the middle of the battle, I admire your skill and it would be good if you came to our team." "But I didn't make any big deal

"But I didn't make any big deal out of it and I think, at that time, he didn't make a big deal out of it. I think, at this point, that's all I know," he said.

His comments came on a conference call that was arranged before Boras made his remarks about Beltran and Williams.

"When two friends meet to talk about how the season is going, they say a lot of things. I think having our agent being the same person, there is going to be some talk regarding the future of each individual," Williams said. "Ithink Scott is going to have a pretty interesting situation on his hands."

The 36-year-old Williams hit 250 in 2004, a career low for a full season, with 22 home runs and 70 RBIs. A five-time All-Star and four-time Gold Glove winner, he's had two subpar years by his own admission, slowed by knee problems and an appendectomy, with his defensive ability declining. Beltran, 27, hit a combined 38

Beltran, 27, hit a combined 38 home runs with 104 RBIs, and stole 42 bases while batting 267 for Kansas City and Houston as a first-time All-Star. Playing in the postseason for the first time, he homered in a record five straight games for the Astros.



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SPORTS



James, Ilgauskas lead Cavaliers to overtime victory over previously undefeated Suns, Page 34

Instant replay for baseball?

Giving topic another look on agenda for major league GMs

BY BEN WALKER The Associated Press

KEY BISCAYNE, Fla. — Brian Cashman wanted to make this perfectly clear: The umpires were correct when they called Alex Rodriguez out for interference on that crazy play during the AL Championship Series.

AL Championship Series.
"They got it completely right,
100 percent," the New York Yankees' general manager said this
week. "But you would hate to
have a game, or a series or even a
season come down to a play
where they miss it and instant replay could have helped.

"So as far as instant replay, I'm in favor of it."

Now, after a pennant race and postseason dotted with reversed rulings, baseball will get another chance to see who else wants to give replay a look.

The topic was on the agenda for Thursday in the GM meetings. And there seems to be growing support among teams to join the NFL, NBA and NHL in using instant replay on calls such as fair or foul and homer or not, but definitely not balls and strike.

"I think its time has come," Milwaukee assistant Gord Ash said. "The technology has improved and is there. I think there's a place for it."

Even if replay comes up for a formal vote — it did not go very far last year when GMs debated it — there's no assurance it would show up during games anytime soon.

"I don't see it," Bob Watson, vice president of on-field operations, said Wednesday. "And I don't think the commissioner is in favor of it, either."

Earlier in the day, GMs were

briefed on plans to play a spring training game next March in Athens — Baltimore probably would be involved — and efforts to hold a World Cup-style tournament in early 2006.

They also talked about letting teams trade first-round draft choices and were told to be vigilant in verifying the ages of players signed in the Dominican Republic and Venezuela.

But with so many procedural issues to sift through this week, the prospect of adding instant replay is intriguing.

The Cincinnati Reds asked that replay be included on the agenda. Their executives have talked about it internally for a couple of years, and they've heard from

other clubs lately.

"I think there seems to be some level of understanding that getting the play right is what underscores this thought process," Reds GM Dan O'Brien said. "I

don't think any of us have any idea of a timetable."
Said Brad Kullman, the Reds' director of major league operations: "It doesn't make sense that you might have a million fans out there watching on TV and knowing what happened while the umpires huddle without that bene-

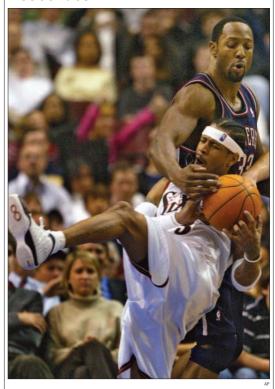
fit."
That said, there's no guarantee

that umpires would want it.
"My sense is no," said former
ump Richie Garcia, now an umpire supervisor. "I think we'd be
fooling around with something
that would take away from the

"Baseball is very traditional, but I'm not going to rule it out," he said.

SEE REPLAY ON PAGE 38

Not so fast



Philadelphia 76ers' Allen Iverson runs into New Jersey Nets' Alonzo Mourning during in the second half Wednesday in Philadelphia. Iverson later hit the tying jumper with 7.2 seconds remaining in regulation, and the Sixers went on to a 108-100 victory in overtime. See details in NBA roundup on Page 34.

Minnesota left-hander Santana unanimous winner of AL Cy Young

Page 30



Racing Stripes: Nextel Cup chase a four-man race with only two races remaining

Page 32



No. 12 Louisville rolls up 587 yards, rides big early lead to convincing victory over TCU

Page 37

16-page look at college basketball 2004-05 in Timeout magazine

